

Salvador raid claims 600 casualties

SAN SALVADOR (R) — Left-wing guerrillas staged their biggest attack in years on a Salvadoran army base on Tuesday and reported up to 600 casualties, including the first U.S. military adviser slain in combat. The U.S. embassy confirmed that an American adviser, one of more than 50 in the country, was killed in the attack. Government military sources said at least 30 guerrillas and 12 Salvadoran soldiers died. The guerrillas' Radio Venceremos reported the base commander and deputy commander were among the casualties. The military sources said an "army" of up to 800 guerrillas launched the assault, the first in several years of relative calm in El Salvador's eight-year-old civil war. A foreign military attack called it a "Red Indian-style attack, reminiscent in its execution of 19th century Indian attacks on U.S. forts." The guerrillas pounded the El Paraiso garrison of the fourth infantry brigade with automatic rifle, machine-gun and mortar fire for at least half an hour, according to military sources with access to reports from the scene.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordanian Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية "الراي"

Kidnappers renew demand

BEIRUT (AP) — Kidnappers on Tuesday renewed an offer to swap four hostages, three Americans and an Indian, for 400 Arab prisoners in Israeli jails and claimed that the health of an ailing U.S. captive was "deteriorating day by day." The demand came in a handwritten Arabic statement signed by the Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine and delivered to offices of the Beirut Independent newspaper An Nahar. The statement was accompanied by a polaroid photograph of one of the four hostages, Jesse Turner, 39. The group said it was releasing the statement along with a photograph to prove its authenticity on the occasion of Land Day. "On the occasion of Land Day, the spies (four captives) have been committed for investigation into their crimes. We urge all those who possess extra information to convey it to us, because all indications suggest that we shall reckon with them and punish them as long as the American administration and the Zionist enemy are not responsive for resolving their issue," the statement threatened. It said the health condition of hostage Alana Steen, 47, was "deteriorating day by day despite continuous medication." It called Mr. Steen "a spy."

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Traffic lights to replace roundabouts

AMMAN (Petra) — A meeting of the Amman traffic committee chaired by Governor Mohammad Amin has decided that roundabouts on Jabal Amman and Jabal Hussein be removed and replaced by traffic lights to ease traffic congestion. The committee said the Fifth and Sixth circles in Jabal Amman, the Firas Circle in Jabal Hussein and one on Jabal Zuhur would be removed and work will soon begin for installing traffic lights in these areas.

League ministers' meeting rescheduled

TUNIS (R) — Arab League foreign ministers are to meet here on Saturday to discuss a proposed international Middle East peace conference, Arab diplomatic sources said Tuesday. The agenda for the foreign ministers' talks was finalised at a meeting of Arab League permanent representatives on Tuesday at the headquarters here of the 21-member organization.

Kabul says downed plane had 40 aboard

ISLAMABAD (R) — Afghanistan's government said Tuesday the plane shot down by Pakistani fighters on Monday was a passenger aircraft with 40 people on board. Kabul Radio said on Antonov AN-26 was attacked by two Pakistani fighters while over the Afghan province of Paktia on an internal flight. Pakistan said Monday its air force shot down a military plane which had intruded some 16 kilometres into Pakistani airspace over the Kurram salient, which borders on Paktia. Pakistani authorities have not identified the plane.

Beirut airport to reopen

BEIRUT (AP) — Prime Minister Rashid Karami said Tuesday Beirut's international airport would reopen to traffic by the end of the week, terminating a two-month shutdown forced by shelling. "All those involved in the airport should brace themselves for its reactivation ... by this weekend," Mr. Karami said in a statement broadcast by Beirut Radio stations.

Syrians arrest six Beirut bomb suspects

BEIRUT (AP) — Syria's military intelligence chief in Lebanon said Tuesday his troops in Beirut have arrested six people in connection with a recent spate of bomb explosions. But as Brigadier Kanaan made the announcement, police reported three more bomb explosions in the western sector of the Lebanese capital where 7,500 Syrian soldiers deployed Feb. 22 in an effort to end the chaotic reign of militiamen.

U.S. charges another Marine

WASHINGTON (R) — A second U.S. Marine guard was charged with espionage on Tuesday and the Defence Department said a third was suspected of spying to investigators in a growing spy scandal at the American embassy in Moscow.

Thatcher praises Soviet reforms and advocates step-by-step missile deal

MOSCOW (Agencies) — British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said Tuesday that East-West differences on banning medium-range nuclear missiles from Europe could only be resolved a step at a time.

She also complimented Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev on his programme of domestic reforms but said the Soviet Union still has "a great deal to do" on human rights. The conservative British leader spoke at a packed news conference on the fourth day of a visit that included nine hours of talks with Mr. Gorbachev and a luncheon with Nobel laureate Andrei Sakharov, the Soviet Union's most prominent dissident. She called her visit "the most fascinating and invigorating I have ever made abroad as prime minister" and recalled her first meeting with Mr. Gorbachev in December 1984 in London, only months before he became leader of the Soviet Communist Party. "I said he was someone I was able to do business with. Well, we were able to do business yesterday," she said. In the nine hours of talks on Monday Mrs. Thatcher said she and Mr. Gorbachev discussed arms control, the Soviet presence in Afghanistan, human rights and Soviet-British relations. "We both believe in speaking frankly and we had plenty of opportunity for that yesterday," she said. She said the two leaders discussed a Soviet proposal to eliminate medium-range missiles from Europe, but said differences remained. She said she and Mr. Gorbachev agreed that progress would be made only in a "stage-by-stage approach."

Reagan administration officials looking forward to Rifai visit

U.S. not to 'prejudge' participation in international conference on Middle East

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The U.S. State Department has confirmed that Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and Foreign Minister Taber Al Masri are scheduled to visit Washington next week and said U.S. administration officials were looking forward to discussing with them a number of important issues. State Department deputy spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley said Monday that Mr. Rifai and Mr. Masri were scheduled to meet with Vice-President George Bush, Secretary of State George Shultz and Secretary of Defence Caspar Weinberger as well as other U.S. officials during the visit on April 6 and 7. "We look forward to discussing with Prime Minister Rifai a number of important regional and bilateral issues," Oakley told reporters. The deputy spokeswoman emphasised that Mr. Rifai's visit was "simply another opportunity to exchange views with our close friends" and "not a substitute for a visit to Washington by His Majesty King Hussein. "We continue to look forward to a visit later this year by King Hussein," she said. The prime minister's visit "stands on its own merits," she said, when reporters pressed for an answer on when the King might visit the United States. The spokeswoman cautioned "against drawing any conclusions... about other visits" simply because Mr. Rifai will be in Washington later this week. Oakley said she could not provide a list of specific subjects that will come up during the prime minister's visit. "Certainly, Jordan is a close friend," she said. "We will cover a wide range of bilateral and multilateral issues."

Proposal submitted for Venice-style lake and gondolas in Abdoun area

By R. Gharaibeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordanians will be getting a taste of Venice right here in Amman if a proposal made by the Italian government gets the approval of concerned Jordanian authorities.

The Italian government has presented a proposal to build an artificial lake in the area between Abdoun and Jabal Amman that would serve as a Venice-style tourist attraction, Italian ambassador to Jordan Luigi Amaduzzi told the Jordan Times on Tuesday. If the proposal is accepted, the lake would allow people to cross from Abdoun to Jabal Amman and vice-versa via gondolas that would be operated by specially trained Jordanians who are to receive training in Venice, the ambassador said.

In an interview, Mr. Amaduzzi said that a feasibility study finalised in January by an Italian firm indicated that the project would take two years, and would be completed at a cost of between JD 50 to 60 million.

The project, which has to be carried out by government-commissioned Italian contractors according to the terms of the proposal, would be financed by a 15-year soft loan from a consortium of Jordanian and Italian banks. Mr. Amaduzzi said his government would provide technical assistance for the building of the lake as well as establishing a gondola factory.

According to a feasibility study for the project, Jordan would be able to cover the cost five years after the completion of the project.



Luigi Amaduzzi

ject. Water to fill the lake will come from natural as well as man-made sources. The study details a plan to fill the created lake basin from a system of canals reaching from the hilly areas in Abdoun and Jabal Amman to channel rain water to pour into the created basin. The rainfall would also be used to guarantee a proper level of water.

Quoting the feasibility study, Mr. Amaduzzi said that the depth of the lake will vary between two and six metres, depending on the area's topography.

"It will be the first project of its kind in the region," the Italian ambassador said. "It will bring people from all over the world to visit. It is bound to increase the number of tourists coming into the country."

The proposal, which was presented to authorities here late last month, includes suggestions for the establishment of gondola renting clubs as well as hotels and

other resort facilities around the lake.

One of the problems facing the ambitious project, however, is finding a way to alter traffic routes and avoiding private property in the process of building the lake. The study stated that motorists may have to make a longer turn if they want to get to or from the Ras Al Ain area.

A team of Italian architects had concluded a study of the lake area in January and decided it was a more feasible sight than the previously proposed area between seventh and Wadi Seer circles.

The study took into consideration the quantities of rain in winter, evaporation levels, traffic constraints and the effects the project would have on inhabitants of the area. Mr. Amaduzzi said he believed that most people would welcome the idea of having a lake as the view from their homes. The project would entail buying land and some other property from private citizens in the area.

The size of the lake has not been determined yet pending the conclusion of the final survey on the infrastructure needed for the implementation of the project and other studies of the area.

Mr. Amaduzzi compared the lake project to building the American style Disneyland in Spain and France, though on a smaller scale.

"I think the such a project would add colour to Amman. The capital will be seen by many in a new light very interesting light," Ambassador Amaduzzi said. "We hope approval for it is forthcoming."



Her Majesty Queen Noor visits a rural women's centre in the Jordan Valley on Tuesday (Petra photo)

Cabinet frees villages and local councils from heavy loan burden

AMMAN (Petra) — The government has decided on a number of measures to improve the conditions of the municipal and village councils in the Kingdom and enable them to carry out their public service and projects, a statement issued after a Cabinet session said.

The statement said that in implementation of directives by His Majesty King Hussein the Cabinet discussed in detail recommendations by a ministerial committee formed to study the financial, technical and administrative conditions of municipal and village councils in the Kingdom and the reasons behind their shortage of funds needed for carrying out their projects. The Cabinet studied measures that should be taken for improving these conditions and took the following decisions:

— The treasury will shoulder the 1987 interest on loans obtained by the councils from the Cities and Villages Development Bank. (The interest amounts to JD 3,229,498).
— The treasury will shoulder the interest on loans given to local councils for purchasing land for building roads, health centres and schools and municipal offices. (The written off interest until March 31, 1987 amount to JD 4,662,550).
— The Ministry of Education will shoulder the instalments and interest on loans given to local councils by the Cities and Villages Development Bank for building schools amount to JD 3,401,936).
— The Ministry of Education will shoulder interest and instalments on loans given to local councils by the Cities and Villages Development Bank for buying land for schools. (The amount is JD 1,042,201).
— A loan of JD 500,000 given to the Water Authority by the treasury will be paid to the local councils in the form of fuel revenues.

Various ministries and departments will purchase land and carry out construction operations directly and without requesting help from the local councils during 1987.
— Unpaid loans due from the

local councils to the Cities and Villages Development Bank will be rescheduled to be paid over 10 years with a two-year grace period. (These loans amount to JD 2,175,066).
— Local councils will be given loans to meet their commitments to contractors. These commitments, amounting to JD 1,181,114, will be repaid over a 10-year period with a two-year grace period.
— Loans given by the Cities and Villages Development Bank to municipal councils will be rescheduled for a period of 10 years with a two-year grace period.
— Loans given to village councils from the Cities and Villages Development Bank will be rescheduled and paid over 15 years with a two-year grace period.
— The Ministry of Finance and the Central Bank will be entrusted with powers to take proper measures for providing the liquidity for the Cities and Villages Development Bank to carry out these decisions.
— A total of 174 municipal councils and 375 village councils will benefit from these decisions.

Carter concludes Mideast visit

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, who on Tuesday ended a five-nation Middle East tour that revived memories of his days in the White House, has appealed for an international peace conference to break the Arab-Israeli deadlock.

Mr. Carter left Israel on a flight to Rome after saying he had found unprecedented flexibility in Syria, Jordan and among Palestinians. He urged Israel to seize the opportunity for expanding the peace.

"I think we have extracted from Camp David its maximum benefit. Now it's time to ... move on to an international conference," Mr. Carter, who chaired the Camp David summit that led to the 1979 Israel-Egyptian treaty, told a news conference Monday night.

He told an audience at Haifa University that Arab leaders were now "adequately flexible" to accept peace with Israel and the opposition of many Israelis, including Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, to a conference was based on "inadequate analysis of the opportunities."

Mr. Carter said President Reagan's sale of arms to Iran had seriously damaged U.S. credibility in the Middle East and criticised Washington for putting a low priority on peace efforts in the region.

He said he had been struck by the new democracy in Egypt and the more moderate tone of Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, with whom he had nine hours of personal talks.

A spokesperson announced in Washington on Monday that Mr. Carter will report to Secretary of State George Shultz on his five-nation Middle East trip on Friday.

Plans for his meeting with Mr. Shultz was disclosed by Melissa Montgomery, the former president's press assistant.

Israeli troops wound 2 Arabs at Balata

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli soldiers on Tuesday shot and wounded two Palestinians and imposed a four-hour curfew on Balata refugee camp in the occupied West Bank after protesters pelted soldiers with rocks and metal pellets.

The Israeli occupation authorities said the soldiers opened fire after demonstrators refused to heed a call to disperse at the camp near the city of Nablus. The wounded were taken to hospital. Troops were sent to Balata, the army said, after reports that demonstrators were burning tyres in anti-Israeli protests.

On Monday, Israeli soldiers shot and wounded a Palestinian during "Land Day" protests in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip against Israeli expropriation of Arab land.

An army spokesman told Reuters the Palestinian was shot after a group of demonstrators hurled stones at soldiers on foot patrol in the West Bank town of Jenin.

Another Palestinian was wounded when the army used gunfire to quell a demonstration at the Gaza refugee camp of Jabalya, the Israeli military said. Two Israelis were slightly wounded in separate incidents.

U.S. said to believe Israeli leaders authorised Pollard

TEL AVIV (AP) — A newspaper said Tuesday the United States believes Israeli leaders authorised former U.S. navy analyst Jonathan Jay Pollard's espionage activities.

The Jerusalem Post's Washington correspondent quoted unidentified U.S. officials as saying they believed elements in Israel's political echelon authorised Pollard's activities and subsequently covered up the government's role in the affair.

The Post report also quoted the officials as saying a thorough Israeli inquiry of the case would cause a political crisis and force the removal of top Israeli leaders. Israel has insisted since Pollard's arrest in November 1985 that the operation was not authorised by the government and that the unit which ran Pollard was subsequently shut down.

But reports surfacing recently in the Israeli media have indicated that a parliament subcommittee now probing the spy case may implicate the political level in all stages of the damaging episode, from recruitment to cover-up.

Newspaper reports also have said that as soon as Pollard was arrested, Israeli leaders secretly appointed a two-member investigating committee whose findings have never been made public. Pollard, a 32-year-old Amer-

Queen honours working women of Jordan Valley

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

CENTRAL JORDAN VALLEY — "If I hadn't been a working woman, my children would have grown up to be illiterate peasants rather than the educated and productive people that they are today," said Sitah Hussein, one of 11 women who received royal recognition on Tuesday for their efforts in developing the local community here.

"But thanks to all those 30 years during which I have worked as a midwife, I have been able to see my children grow up to be educated and productive members of the community," said the 62-year-old Mrs. Hussein.

Mrs. Hussein's story is very similar to those of the rest of the women who were given awards by Her Majesty Queen Noor in recognition for their efforts in improving the living standards of their societies and fighting hard to raise and educate their families under difficult circumstances.

Crowds of men, women and children gathered at the headquarters of the Agricultural Marketing and Processing Company of Jordan (AMPCO) to attend the distribution of awards ceremony.

All of the 11 honoured women have been the sole supporters of their families, have worked for more than 10 years in areas related to education, midwifery, farming and dress-making.

With the exception of four, all women are illiterates.

One of the honoured women, Petra Thaber Al-Ais, is a German married to a Jordanian. She runs a model farm for livestock and dairy products.

Tuesday's ceremony for pioneering women living in the areas of Kraineh, Ma'adi and Deir Alla was organised by the Ministry of Social Development and the Amman-based Business and Professional Women's Club (BPWC).

Speakers at the ceremony hailed the working women of the Jordan Valley and paid tribute to Queen Noor's constant efforts to support and improve the situation of women in the country.

Hind Abdul Jabbar, president of the BPWC, told the gathering: "The women who were honoured by Your Majesty today represent a model of the working women who are actively participating with their fellow brothers to develop this agricultural area."

Mrs. Abdul Jabbar said 23 per cent of the total working force working in agriculture were females.

Speaking on behalf of the honoured ladies was Halimeh Shihab, who expressed her colleagues' deep appreciation for Her Majesty's outstanding efforts in promoting the role of women in their societies.

"This event will be a driving force towards further excellence, devotion and work that is directed towards development," Miss Shihab said.

According to official figures, 52 per cent of the central Ghor's 60,000 population are women. Also, 55 per cent of the total people are below the age of 18.

Her Majesty's visit to the area also took her to the AMPCO-run Al Arda tomato plant, two community development centres, Tell Deir Alla, one of the most significant archaeological sites in the district, and the farm of Subhiyeh Al Shobaki, one of the eleven honoured women.

Mrs. Shobaki has been working in her 32-dunum farm since her husband passed away in 1960. She managed to raise her 11 children, and give them higher education. One of her sons is a medical doctor.

Natives of the areas visited by Queen Noor turned out in their hundreds to record Her Majesty's tremendous welcome. Women, men, and children pushed their

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Egypt's Islamic Movement heads for election showdown in Sohag

SOHAG, Egypt (R) — A growing Islamic Movement in the River Nile town of Sohag, scene of clashes between police and Muslim hardliners, is heading for an election showdown with Egypt's ruling party.

The National Democratic Party (NDP) of President Hosni Mubarak is confident of winning most of Sohag's seats in the People's Assembly in Cairo in next Monday's national elections.

But a tripartite alliance between the Muslim Brotherhood, the Socialist Labour Party (SLP) and the Liberals, fighting under the SLP banner, is determined to give the ruling party a run for its money.

Islamic sentiment, based on calls for the application of Sharia Islamic Law in mainly-Muslim Egypt, is running high among Sohag's 150,000 people.

Many interviewed by Reuters in the banner-decked streets supported Sheikh Mostafa Darweesh, a top civil servant standing against an Islamic-aligned independent against supply and Foreign Trade Minister Galal Abul Dahab for one of the town's two

seats for non-party candidates. The local NDP chief, Fawzi Al Omda, said Sheikh Darweesh would win only 20 to 25 per cent of the vote. But Sheikh Darweesh's backers predicted he would get 90 per cent of the vote in a fair election.

The government denies charges by opposition parties that it plans to rig the elections to ensure that the NDP keeps its overwhelming majority in the 452-seat assembly.

Businessman Sabar Mahmoud said the Islamic Movement would win a majority from Sohag provided elections were fair.

"It is very strong. Antagonising it would not be for the public good," he said. "If the elections were fair, they would result in a drastic change."

Clashes flared in Sohag on March 20 when hardliners, said by police to have been armed

with chains and knives in preparation for a fight, tried to use a mosque for campaigning after Friday prayers.

But politicians of all parties said tension had subsided in the town, which has a large Coptic Christian minority, following the destruction of a mosque a month ago in what police said was a fire from an electrical short-circuit.

Rumours spread that Christians were responsible for the blaze and Muslim extremists set fire to two churches.

The politicians said the town's Muslims and Christians had always lived in peace, even when sectarian incidents occurred elsewhere in Egypt.

Supporters of Sheikh Darweesh rejected suggestions that they were extremists.

"We are a small group that has extremist ideas, but they do not represent the Islamic movement," businessman Mahmoud said.

"Muslim Sohagis calling for Sharia are not extremists. There is no such thing as extremism in Islam."

Politicians said that, while religious sentiment would influence some voters on Monday, family ties and village loyalties would determine how most people voted.

They said Sohag, 500 kilometres south of Cairo, was typical of hundreds of Egyptian towns whose people lived by farming and trading and whose political instincts were traditional.

"If I moved to another party my people would still support me," said the NDP's Omda.

Denying opposition charges that recently-built schools and clinics amounted to bribes, he said the governing party would win a big majority "because it is the strongest and because of the services done by the government."

Radi Abdul Rasoul of the leftist Unionist Progressive Party said this style of politics amounted to appealing to people's tribal instincts and trading services for votes.

Fadlallah pledges new effort to free hostages

BEIRUT (AP) — An influential Shi'ite Muslim religious leader on Tuesday promised to try again to free four hostages, three Americans and an Indian, after admitting that earlier efforts with Iranian captors have all failed.

Sheikh Mohammad Hussein Fadlallah, spiritual guide of Hizbollah (Party of God), made the promise during a meeting with the wives of the four hostages, who were grabbed at Beirut University College (BUC) Jan. 24 by gunmen disguised as policemen.

The Iranian-backed Hizbollah is believed to be the parent group for radicals holding foreign hostages in Lebanon.

There are 24 foreigners, including eight Americans and six Frenchmen, missing and believed held by these extremists. Anglican church envoy Terry Waite also disappeared in Beirut two months ago while on a mission to free some of the American captives.

The women met with Sheikh Fadlallah at his home in the southern suburb of Bir al Abed for 30 minutes, according to sources close to the cleric.

OPEC fund grants \$250,000 to UNRWA health projects

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) Fund has announced a grant of \$250,000 to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine refugees (UNRWA) for equipment in UNRWA clinics and for environmental sanitation in refugee camps.

Announcing the contribution, OPEC Fund Director-General Y. Sayyid Abdullatif said that \$194,000 of the grant is for upgrading medical equipment at UNRWA health centres in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and the remaining \$56,000 is for improving environmental health conditions in West Bank refugee camps.

The OPEC Fund has contributed more than \$6 million to UNRWA since 1979.

Egypt discusses 'camps war' with world powers

CAIRO (R) — The Egyptian Foreign Ministry summoned the ambassadors of the five permanent member states of the U.N. Security Council on Tuesday to discuss immediate aid to Palestinian camps under siege in Lebanon. Mikha'ilun surrounded two Palestinian camps in Lebanon since last September and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on Monday received a message from the PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat on the subject.

Greece: Ozal's remarks encouraging

ATHENS (Agencies) — Greece said Tuesday it was awaiting an official version of remarks by Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal before taking further steps on the question of talks with Ankara about the Aegean Sea dispute.

Government spokesman Yannis Roubatis told journalists there was a "certain measure of encouragement" in remarks by Mr. Ozal in Ankara reported by news agencies Monday.

Mr. Ozal said Greece and Turkey were moving closer to holding talks following their row over disputed oil rights in the Aegean and would soon reply to Athens' invitation to take the issue to the international court at The Hague.

Mr. Roubatis said Greece wanted the talks to draw up a legal document to present to the court to settle the question of delimitation of the Greek continental shelf.

Turkey has in the past rejected the basis for Greece's proposal to go to the court — a 1956 Geneva Convention and the Law of the Sea — which it says supports Athens' arguments.

Asked where and at what level the proposed talks would be held, Mr. Roubatis replied: "The Greek government has not proposed any place or level for discussions. What Greece has done is to invite the Turkish government to draw up a document to be submitted to the International Court."

Mr. Roubatis repeated the government view that only a legal settlement by the court can solve the question.

The spokesman declined to confirm or deny a statement by Greek opposition leader Constantine Mitsotakis Monday who

spoke of Turkish claims that Greece had agreed not to search for oil outside its six-mile territorial waters.

A Canadian-led oil consortium had ceased its activities near the Greek island of Thassos in the Aegean after the government announced it was being taken over last February, he said.

The state-run Greek oil company which was taking over the operations had not gone ahead with any new research operations, he added.

It was a row over disputed oil rights that led Turkey to send a research vessel escorted by warships towards the spot at the weekend. A confrontation was avoided when Ankara announced the ship would stay in Turkish waters.

Mr. Roubatis declined to say whether Greece wished the proposed talks with Turkey to be expanded into a wider dialogue or whether Athens had changed its policy towards Turkey.

Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu has consistently rejected talks with Turkey until Ankara accepts Greek rights in the Aegean and withdraws its forces from Cyprus.

Asked if the Greek Armed Forces were still on alert Tuesday, Mr. Roubatis would only say that Greek warships were closer to their ports than they had been.

Turkey is finalising a reply to Greece on proposed talks about the Aegean oil rights dispute, but diplomats said a breakthrough seemed a long way off.

Ambassador to Athens Nazmi Akman returns to his post Wednesday with a verbal answer to the Greek government following indications that it is ready for a dialogue, senior Turkish Foreign

Ministry officials said. A Turkish ministry official said Tuesday: "I don't think the Greeks are ruling out a wide-ranging dialogue and concentrating on a compromise. We are also inclined to start a dialogue. This may include the pros and cons of taking the issue to the ICJ (International Court of Justice) among other things."

The Turkish officials said no moves had yet been made on what level or where talks might be held. Mr. Ozal said no summit was planned between himself and Mr. Papandreu but there might be one later.

Western envoys monitoring developments said they were cautiously optimistic but believed a breakthrough in the dispute was a long way off.

"We should not be over-optimistic given the history. I am sceptical that anything of substance is happening yet," said one diplomat.

In Washington, the State Department on Monday welcomed the step taken by Greece and Turkey to ease tensions.

"The United States is pleased with the steps taken to ease the situation," spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley told reporters. "We hope that both allies continue to exercise restraint and will also seek ways to settle their dispute peacefully and prevent a renewal of tensions."

Mrs. Oakley said the United States had been in touch with both sides as well as other NATO allies to alleviate the situation.

She said the United States supported an offer by NATO Secretary-General Lord Carrington to mediate between the sides "following a cooling off period."

Turkey's EC membership 'to face difficulties'

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — The chairman of the European Community's (EC) Council of Ministers has said that Turkey's application for EC membership so soon after the admission of Spain and Portugal would raise problems.

Leo Tindemans, Belgium's foreign minister, met Monday for an hour with Ali Bozer, Turkey's minister in charge of relations with the EC. Mr. Bozer is touring European capitals to prepare his country's application for membership.

Mr. Tindemans' remarks were relayed to the media by his spokesman.

"The possible membership of Turkey, which is expected to be asked very soon," Mr. Tindemans was quoted as saying, "will face a difficult situation." He said the EC had not yet overcome problems of its recent enlargement in January 1986 to include Spain and Portugal.

Mr. Tindemans added that the EC was facing serious financial

problems. But he said the EC would study the Turkish application, which is expected to be made in May.

Mr. Tindemans and Mr. Bozer also briefly discussed last week's Turkey-Greece conflict over oil-drilling rights in the Aegean Sea. Greece put its armed forces on alert when a Turkish prospecting ship approached waters that Greece claims. The situation cooled when Turkey recalled the ship.

Newspaper urges Arabs to back Libya in Chad

ABU DHABI (R) — A United Arab Emirates (UAE) newspaper called on Arab states Tuesday to back Libya in its conflict with Chad, where it said gains by American and French-backed government forces threatened Tripoli.

Al Khaleej, published in Sharjah, said French and U.S. aid to the government of President Hissene Habre was a means of encircling Libya and possibly attacking it.

Mr. Habre's forces say they have routed Libyan troops in northern Chad. Libya denies having troops in the country but says Libyan advisers assist anti-government rebels.

The United States is against Libya for Libya to be right, and for it to be the duty of all who claim membership in the Arab nation to stand by it," Al Khaleej said.

Mr. Habre is supported logistically by 2,400 French troops and receives French and American arms and aid.

"The presence of a pro-Western government in Chad is a new step towards the complete American encirclement of Libya," the paper said, noting the pro-U.S. governments in Egypt and Tunisia.

Meanwhile Chad said Monday its forces seized only 16 Libyan soldiers last Friday when they recaptured the northern stronghold of Faya-Largeau.

A statement from the military high command mentioned no dead or wounded in Libyan or Chadian ranks in what analysts took as a confirmation that northern Chad's most important town, in Libyan hands for almost four years, had been evacuated by its estimated 2,500-strong garrison.

The statement said 274 men, presumably Chadian rebels or members of Libya's so-called Islamic Legion, rallied to President Hissene Habre's forces when they entered the oasis.

The Islamic Legion is made up of soldiers of various African nationalities, many of them reported pre-gang-raped while looking for jobs in Libya.

Bulgaria denies reports of talks on ties with Israel

AMMAN (J.T.) — Bulgaria Tuesday categorically denied reports of contacts between Bulgarian and Israeli officials on re-establishment of diplomatic relations, calling recent press reports "absolutely groundless."

An official statement by the Bulgarian embassy in Amman said: Such contacts and talks did not take place. "Our country considers that the reason which caused the cutting off the Bulgarian-Israeli relationship in 1967 still remain — Israeli occupation of the Arab lands still exists."

"Israeli ruling circles refuse to take into account demands of the world public opinion for restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestine Arab people, the right to establish their own state. Not only that even the elementary signs for such a tendency are absent in Israel, but it continues to undertake new hostile preparations and threats towards its Arab neighbours," the statement said.

"There are no appropriate grounds for beginning talks on this question," the embassy statement added.

The embassy blamed these reports on "certain circles which are interested in casting a shadow over the sincere friendly relationship" between Bulgaria and the Arab Nation.

But according to some sources, the fate of the five crew members had not yet been decided because the pilot and the co-pilot wanted to stay but the three other non-commissioned officers were undecided.

One Libyan exile told Reuters that the trio who arrived by helicopter — two officers and a non-commissioned officer — had flown from a Libyan air base at Tobruk, about 160 kilometres west of the Egyptian border town of Salum.

They were later flown to Cairo for interrogation by military intelligence.

India said mediating return of Libyan planes in Egypt

CAIRO (R) — Libyan exile sources here say India is acting as go-between for Cairo and Tripoli in the case of eight Libyans who have landed two military aircraft in Egypt.

An Indian embassy spokesman refused to comment Monday night when asked if his country was involved in contacts between the two neighbours, at loggerheads since they fought a brief border war in 1977.

But a senior Libyan exile said India was mediating between the countries to facilitate the return of the two aircraft.

On Sunday, three Libyan Air Force officers landed their Chinook LC-15 helicopter at an airstrip in the western desert and Egypt said they were seeking political asylum.

Another group of five fled in a C-130 Transport on March 2 to the southern airport of Abu Simbel and the Egyptian government said they all asked for asylum.

Swedish arms company admits illegal sales

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) — The head of Sweden's giant arms producer, Nobel Industries, has said subsidiary companies illegally sold weapons and ammunition to countries bordering the Gulf and others in East Europe in violation of neutral Sweden's tough export laws.

Anders Carlberg said company executives knew that arms sold to Singapore, Austria, and Yugoslavia would subsequently be sent to nations on Sweden's blacklist.

Mr. Carlberg said company executives had "committed serious mistakes, both morally and legally."

He did not identify any executives by name, but he referred to Nobel's daughter firms of Bofors AB and Nobel Kemi.

Speaking at a news conference, he listed nearly a dozen incidents of illicit deals and said, "I cannot guarantee there are no more cases."

He said investigations by the four-year-old arms controversy had tracked arms and munitions

to the Gulf states of Dubai, Bahrain and Oman, as well as to East Germany.

But he said he had no evidence to support allegations that Sweden intentionally sold surface-to-air Robot 70 missiles to Iran, although the weapon has been reported in use by the Iranian army.

Police and customs officials are investigating the transactions, and indictments reportedly are being prepared against at least eight executives.

Sweden, which produces 70 per cent of its own weaponry, has outlawed sales to countries at war or in volatile areas which could become involved in conflict.

The controversy has embarrassed Sweden's government, which has been accused by Swedish peace organisations of failing to supervise the arms exports.

Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson has denied wrongdoing by either his year-old government or by previous governments.

EC ministers approve \$1.9b Mediterranean package

BRUSSELS (R) — European Community (EC) ministers have approved financial packages for several Mediterranean states totalling 1.6 billion European Currency Units (\$1.9 billion), an EC official said Tuesday.

The packages, which are part of special EC trade agreements with Tunisia, Egypt, Lebanon, Israel, Algeria, Morocco and Jordan until 1992, include 615 million ECUS (\$707 million) in grants, he said.

They also include one billion ECUS (\$1.2 billion) in loans from the European Investment Bank, the EC's long-term financing arm.

The framework for the transfers was signed Monday by EC agriculture ministers meeting in Brussels after being agreed in principle by foreign ministers of the 12-nation bloc earlier this month, the spokesman said.

JORDAN TELEVISION	
Tel: 77311-19	
PROGRAMME ONE	
15:30	Koran
16:45	Cartoons (Films)
16:10	Children's programme
17:00	Walt Disney
17:35	Cinema
18:10	Local programme
19:20	News in Arabic
20:30	Message from Cairo
21:00	Arab series
21:40	Wrestling
22:45	Arab series
23:30	News in Arabic
PROGRAMME TWO	
15:00	Des chiffres et des lettres
16:20	L'ecole des fans
16:50	News in French
19:15	Autos in Jordan
19:30	News in Hebrew
19:45	Varities
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Wrestling
21:10	Documentary: "A gentle way with cancer" (eps. 5)
22:00	News in English
22:30	Bestseller Captains and the Kings eps. (4)
RADIO JORDAN	
855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM & partly on 95.0 KHz. SW Tel: 77411-19	
07:00	Light Music
07:30	Newsdesk
08:00	Morning Show
10:00	News Summary
10:45	Morning Show Contd.
11:00	Country Music
11:30	Songs from Movies
12:00	News Summary
12:45	Readings
13:30	Pop Session
13:55	News Summary
14:00	Pop Session
14:30	News Bulletin
14:40	Instrumentals
14:50	Follow the Wind
15:00	News Summary
15:30	News in Summary
16:00	Instrumentals
16:30	Old Favorites
17:00	Jordan Weekly
17:30	Pop Session
18:00	News Summary
18:45	Rock Profile
19:30	Musical
19:40	News Desk
20:00	Date with a Star
20:30	Evening Show

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* An art exhibition by 17 contemporary Arab artists at the Petra Bank Art Gallery — Wadi Saqra Street (until April 9)

* A plastic arts exhibition by Yammouk University's painting club at the French Cultural Centre (until April 2)

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre .. Tel. 661026/7
American Centre .. 644371
American Cultural Library .. 641520
British Cultural Centre .. 641721
French Cultural Centre .. 657009
Goethe Institute .. 641993
Soviet Cultural Centre .. 644203
Spanish Cultural Centre .. 624049
Turkish Cultural Centre .. 637777
Haya Arts Centre .. 665195
Husseini Youth City .. 667181/6
Y.W.C.A. .. 641793
Y.W.M.C.A. .. 642521
Amman Municipal Library .. 637111
Univ. of Jordan Library .. 843353

MUSEUMS

"Children's Heritage and Science Museum." Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also movies from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m.-5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Mount Zarqa, Jabal Lawweidneh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630126.

Martyrs' Memorial (Military

Museum): Collection of military memorabilia donated from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.

SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.

Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.

Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.

Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercultural Hotel, 2:00 p.m.

Royal Automobile Club. Jabal Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 816334, 817334.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman. Tel. 624590.

Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic): Jabal Lawweidneh, Tel. 637440.

De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussini. Tel. 661757.

Terzantina Church (Roman Catholic): Jabal Lawweidneh, mass in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5:30 p.m. Tel. 622366

Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abadi. Tel. 623941.

Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman. Tel. 678906.

Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 771331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 775261.

St. Eudokia Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, Tel. 771751.

Amman International Church (Interdenominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisel, Tel. 677182.

Evangelical Lutheran Church Jabal Amman, 6th Circle, (Rev. N. Smir). Tel. 811295.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Cabinet names envoy to Pakistan

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet on Tuesday announced the appointment of Mr. Fakhr Abu Taleb as Jordan's ambassador to Pakistan. Mr. Abu Taleb will also serve as Jordan's non-resident ambassador to the Maldives Islands.

Dudin receives Gazan delegation

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin conferred in his office Tuesday with a delegation from the refugee camp in Gaza for discussions on a number of questions related to public services in the camp. The minister said that the Jordanian government has specific directives from His Majesty King Hussein to give the greatest possible assistance to the people of the Israeli-held Gaza territory. A number of senior ministry officials were present at the meeting.

Arab women's federation to meet April 19

AMMAN (Petra) — The eighth meeting of the General Federation of Arab Women will open in Amman on April 19 under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor. The four-day meeting will discuss financial and administrative reports on the federation's activities as well as programmes and plans for involving Arab women in international seminars and conferences. A seminar will be held during the meetings to discuss issuing a pan-Arab women's magazine. The eighth meeting is being organised by the Ministry of Labour and Social Development and the General Federation of Jordanian Women.

Australian ambassador visits Aqaba

AQABA (Petra) — Australian Ambassador to Jordan Terry Goggin Tuesday paid a visit to Aqaba and met with Mr. Bassam Qaqish, the president of the Aqaba Region Authority (ARA). The ambassador was briefed on the ARA's projects to develop the economic and tourist sectors of the port city. He and Mr. Qaqish also discussed the possibility of Australian assistance in implementing these projects.

Hamzeh meets WHO representative

AMMAN (Petra) — Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh Tuesday met with Dr. Abdul Majid Abdul Hadi, representative of the World Health Organisation (WHO) in Jordan and Syria for discussions on subjects related to the implementation of health programmes in Jordan. Dr. Abdul Hadi said that Jordan has been cooperating with the WHO in implementing health schemes in Jordan to provide better medical services.

Ministry issues agri-import plan

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Agriculture on Tuesday issued a statement permitting merchants and food growers to export all types of vegetables and fruits during the coming month. The statement said that Jordan will be importing garlic and apples through the Agricultural Marketing and Processing Company (AMPCO) and will allow merchants to import carrots, beets, turnips, dates, sugar cane, thyme and sage.

ACC director leaves for Rome

AMMAN (Petra) — Dr. Sami Sunaa, director general of the Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACC), left Amman on Tuesday for Rome to take part in a meeting for agricultural credit organisations in the Near East and North Africa. The meeting, organised by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), will discuss different technical and financial assistance to be given by the FAO to these organisations.

Scholars to discuss Islamic financing

IRBID (Petra) — A seminar on Islamic financial administration will open at Yarmouk University's Islamic Studies Centre (ISC) on April 5 under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. ISC Director Abdul Qader Al Riba'i said that the participants will submit a scientific research paper dealing with financial resources Zakat (alms) and Jizyah (money paid by non-Muslims) in addition to financial administrative procedures in Islam. He said that Muslim scholars and intellectuals will take part in the four-day seminar.

Shakaa, Miko discuss ministers' council

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Justice Riyad Al Shakaa Tuesday held a meeting with Mr. Mohammad Miko, the secretary general of the Arab Ministers of Justice Council, who arrived in Amman on Monday. They discussed preparations for holding the fifth council meeting in Amman, which will open on April 11 under royal patronage. The four-day conference will be attended by justice ministers from various Arab states and special committees have been formed to handle the conference's financial, administrative and communications affairs. Meanwhile, an Arab committee formed by the justice ministers' council opens a meeting in Amman today to discuss a unified Arab civil status law. The four-day meeting will be attended by delegates from 12 Arab countries.

Office management seminar begins

AMMAN (Petra) — A two-week seminar on office management Monday opened at the Amman-based Arab Organisation for Administrative Sciences (AOAS). Participants will discuss skills in organising and running offices which entail correspondence, documentation and scrutinising incoming data and information. Thirty participants from various Arab countries are taking part in the seminar.

VTC advises students on vocational training options

AMMAN (Petra) — The Vocational Training Corporation (VTC) has embarked on a programme to orient students of the third preparatory stage on various trades which they could take as a substitute for academic courses. The programme is being implemented in cooperation with the Ministry of Education which organises a special examination for processing students into vocational training and academic streams at the end of each scholastic year.

The programme on orientation and guidance for students aims at directing the young generation to learning trades at different vocational centres around the Kingdom. These students can take

National book week starts today

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan today marks the beginning of a week-long national book festival by opening a number of public libraries and holding cultural festivals in Amman and other regions of the country. Director general of the Department of Libraries, Documentation and National Archives (DLDNA) Dr. Ahmad Sharkas said that a new public library will be opened at the Central Jordan Valley region, a tent library will be erected in Maadi — also in the Jordan Valley where a children's book exhibition will be held, a public library will be opened in Tafleh. Also, work will start on the construction of a public library in Zarqa and another in Ruaseifa during the week's activities.

The DLDNA will also hold a cultural festival at the Princess Alia School on Jabal Luweibdeh today. The event will include a book exhibition, posters, a micro film wing and a video unit used in library work, Dr. Sharkas added. He said that Jordan has been observing the first week of April each year as a cultural and book week in response to a call by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) issued in 1972 and in manifestation of the country's keen interest in promoting, culture and encouraging people to read and increase their knowledge.

Most towns and cities in Jordan have a public library and DLDNA is keen on encouraging the public to increase their reading of books and different publications to promote their general knowledge, he continued. The national book week, Dr. Sharkas said, is designed to achieve that goal.

According to Dr. Sharkas, the last Jash Festival of Culture and Arts helped to market some JD 100,000 worth of books and through one book exhibition, organised by the DLDNA, 30,000 children's books were sold in Jordan.

To help in this endeavour, the DLDNA last year established 37 public libraries around the Kingdom and collected 454 manuscripts and documented material related to various regional and international conferences and seminars.

Joint research leads to experimental re-introduction of fish to Dead Sea

AMMAN (DPA) — For several years German and Jordanian scientists have been researching the possibility of re-introducing certain indigenous species of fish to the Dead Sea.

An analysis of the water of the Dead Sea has shown that its composition of soluble salts originates from the time the basin was formed and wall paintings by the region's inhabitants over the ages have shown not only boats, but also fishing nets. Also, the well-known mosaics of Madaba show fish in the River Jordan leading to the Dead Sea.

The eminent scientist on early paintings, Professor Dr. Klaus Hünsmann of the Prehistoric and Early Cultures Department of the University of Kleinschbach (Federal Republic of Germany) wrote, in his 1978 essay on Nabatean paintings, about the curious drawings, mosaics and reproductions of fish (also: The Neolithic Inland Navigation in the East Mediterranean Region: Studies on the Archaeology of Jordan, Vol. III, pp 497).

Queen honours working women

(Continued from page 1)

way through the crowds to greet her, shake hands with her and thank her for her visit. "Her Majesty's visit is this year's event. She has given us even more incentives to assume greater socio-economic responsibilities," said Fatimah, a 25-year-old teacher.

At the JD 1 million Ma'adi Rural Development Centre, Queen Noor inaugurated a children's summer library, housed under a tent and the organisation's main public library. Books on display covered various subjects and are printed in both English and Arabic.

The centre was established by the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) in 1979, and is run by the Education Ministry. It has helped the district in offering its male and female citizens courses in automobile repairing, blacksmithing, carpentry, welding, sewing, knitting, nutrition, typing and other professions.

A total of 364 and 468 men and women have graduated from the centre thus far.

The Krameh Centre for Community Development, also visited on Tuesday by the Queen, is another example of institutional-



Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath Tuesday visits Al Hussein Society for the Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped and is briefed on its training facilities (Petra photo)

Princess Sarvath visits society for handicapped

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath on Tuesday visited Al Hussein Society for the Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped and was briefed on the services the society provides for disabled children and young adults. The society, which is being run by the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund (QASWF), offers physiotherapy and other services and treatment to the physically handicapped to help them to adapt to society and to enable them to acquire a trade and earn a living.

Princess Basma reviews preparations for SCF festival

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma chaired a meeting at the Plaza Hotel in Amman on Tuesday to discuss final preparations for a spring festival organised by the Jordanian Save the Children Fund (SCF).

Nearly 100 persons, officials, university students, volunteers and others involved in the preparations for the festival, in addition to the SCF general assembly members, attended the meeting during which different aspects of the one-day programme were reviewed.

The SCF's 1987 spring festival will be held at the Amman Plaza Hotel on April 3 and the organisers expect the event will attract thousands of children and their parents. There will be wings for selling gifts, food supplies, stationery, a fancy dress parade, children's toys, crafts and artificial flowers. The programme also includes a puppet theatre and the Royal Jordanian Airline folklore troupe, the Haya Arts Centre, the band Mirage and several folk troupes from local schools will take part in the events.

Embassies of at least 23 countries will take part in the spring display and will provide different samples of materials to be displayed and sold to visitors. The SCF was founded in Jordan in 1974, and it carries out integrated health and social services and projects for mothers and children.

A spokesman for the Plaza Hotel said that Princess Basma will hold other meetings on Wednesday and Thursday to put the final touches to the festival which opens from 10 in the morning until eight on Friday evening.

Marine life biologists advised that the team select fish which are at home either in salt or fresh water. Research with eels, salmon and a Canadian pike variety showed discouraging results. When carried into the Dead Sea by the River Jordan, they died immediately.

Finally, Dr. Mohammad A. Mahmoud of the Marine Life Scrological Institute at Yarmouk University hit upon the solution: the "saltwater mackerel" (international patent pending) — a hybrid cross between fresh and salt water mackerel. Not only does the fish survive but it also turned out to be one of the most ferocious destroyers of deadly bacteria in the sea.

Although the re-introduction of fish into the lake is still in the experimental stage, the possibility of opening a "Dead Sea Fishing Club" is being explored to complement the other recreational and tourist facilities at the Dead Sea.

Queen honours working women

(Continued from page 1)

largest site museum, featuring a collection of metals, pottery, agriculture tools, Aramaic texts and other excavated items. The Department of Antiquities, in collaboration with Yarmouk University and a team from Leiden University in the Netherlands, is jointly carrying out excavations on the Tell, described by experts as one of Jordan's most important archaeological sites.

Her Majesty later toured the Tell and was briefed by archaeologists on the recent finds there.

The Queen, accompanied by the wife of Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Mona, arrived aboard a helicopter at the JVA's guest house, a 25-year-old renovated mud building. In a briefing to the Queen, JVA President Munther Haddadin touched on the stages the Jordan Valley underwent since 1960 today.

He said the JVA's comprehensive socio-economic development schemes retracted the majority of citizens who fled the area during military operations against Israel in the 1967-1970 period and the population has more than doubled from 64,000 in 1970 to 145,000 in 1986.

The so-called dig house museum includes all research facilities and houses Jordan's

Soviet parliamentarians conclude visit to Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation from the Supreme Soviet left Amman for Moscow on Tuesday at the end of a week-long visit to Jordan at the invitation of Mr. Akef Al Fayed, speaker of the Lower House of Parliament.

During their visit, the delegation — which was led by Mr. Vladimir Orlov — met with His Majesty King Hussein and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. Mr. Orlov and his accompanying delegation also met with Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, senior officials, speakers of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi and Akef Al Fayed and deputies to discuss the Middle East question and other world issues of common interest.

Before his departure, Mr. Orlov made a statement in which he said that his visit to Jordan had been extremely fruitful and positive and that talks with Jordanian officials were held in a very cordial atmosphere. Both sides displayed a real desire for further promoting Jordanian-Soviet relations, he added.

Jordan and the Soviet Union hold identical views with regard to the proposed international conference on the Middle East which is the best possible formula for arriving at a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East region and the Soviet Union will continue to extend support for all efforts designed to convene that conference, Mr. Orlov said.

He said that Moscow views the Gulf war as an aimless conflict which can only continue to sap the resources of Iraq and Iran and serve the enemies of the Arab nation. For this reason, he said that efforts should be made to end the conflict, adding that the Soviet Union is working towards achieving that goal.

The Soviet delegation was seen off at the airport by Mr. Ismail

Hamzeh, he added.

Earlier on Tuesday, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan met at the Royal Court on Tuesday with the Soviet parliamentary delegation and outlined Jordan's policies with regard to the Middle East question. Prince Hassan also spoke about the economic and social situation in the occupied Arab territories. At the meeting Minister of Planning Taher Kanaan presented a detailed briefing on Jordan's development plan for the occupied territories. Prince Hassan replied to questions by the delegation members on different topics discussed.

Meeting with Crown Prince

Hamzeh reviews plans for West Bank health services

AMMAN (J.T.) — Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh held a meeting Tuesday for a committee in charge of health services in the occupied West Bank. The meeting discussed a comprehensive plan for carrying out primary health services in the occupied territory and providing the general medical services in various medical and health institutions.

Dr. Hamzeh said that a hospital to be built in Arah Jerusalem will serve as a substitute for the Hospice Hospital, closed down by the Israeli authorities, and will offer valuable services to the local Arab inhabitants.

He said that plans are being drawn up for establishing 26 health integrated health centres in the occupied Arab territory to help carry out primary health services. The minister decided that another committee meeting be held in the coming two weeks to prepare full plans for the primary health service schemes in the occupied territory.

Jordan earlier this year announced that it will lease the plane to Sudan and said the Royal Jordanian will provide

crews of pilots, stewards, stewardesses and technicians to operate the plane throughout the lease mandate which is five years. The plane will be operating on Sudan's long haul routes, according to a spokesman for Royal Jordanian.

The plane has been repainted with the Sudan Airways emblem and other changes have been made to prepare it for the lease. Leaving for Sudan on board the plane was a team of Royal Jordanian officials who will hand over the plane to Sudan Airways.

Under the previous administration, the Baptist Hospital used to have a 35 per cent occupancy because it was a private hospital but under government management the same hospital is expected to have a 100 per cent occupancy and benefit a larger sector of the local inhabitants, Dr. Hamzeh added. The Baptist Hospital is the only hospital operating in the Ajloun district.

The inauguration ceremony will include the distribution of royal medals to veteran hospital workers.

On the broader regional question of peace in the Middle East, Oakley was asked about former President Jimmy Carter's calls for an international peace conference during his recent trip to the area. The deputy spokeswoman said the U.S. position on an international peace conference is well known.

"As we stated during Israeli Prime Minister (Yitzhak) Shamir's visit to Washington, our goal is a just and lasting peace through direct, face-to-face negotiations," she said. "We have also stated that we are willing to explore all possibilities, including an international conference, that might lead to the immediate objective of direct negotiations."

White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said Monday the United States would not pre-judge participation in an interna-

onal conference on the Middle East and would support such a session if it led to direct negotiations between Israel and the Arab side.

Questioned about news reports suggesting a new U.S. policy approach to the Middle East, Fitzwater noted the U.S. position "continues to be the same as it has been for some time, which is that we would support an international conference that leads to direct negotiations. That has been the U.S. position... There's not an iota of change."

Questioned on whether the recent talks between Israel and the Soviet Union on establishing diplomatic relations had shifted considerations about the peace conference idea, he replied: "We have always said that we would have to see the proposal, that we wouldn't make pre-conditions and so forth, that we would have to see who would be participating, who the membership (was), but that we would not pre-judge anyone coming or not coming, and that it could be a useful instrument if it led to direct negotiations. That situation has not changed."

U.S. looking forward to visit

(Continued from page 1)

spokeswoman told one questioner, pointing to a total of \$12 million in aid provided during the 1986 and 1987 fiscal years.

"We certainly have the intention to provide additional aid in the future. I'm sure that will be discussed," she said.

Jordan Times

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Serious and resolute

THE car-bomb blast that happened near Syria's military headquarters in west Beirut on Saturday and the continuous clashes between Syrian troops and Lebanese militia groups are clear indications of a war of attrition that extremist militia groups seem prepared to wage against Syrian forces and the Syrian presence in Lebanon. The Syrians, who deployed 7,000 troops in west Beirut in February, have succeeded in establishing some measure of security and have rekindled hopes of a settlement to the civil strife in Lebanon. With this move, the Syrians hope to pave the way for party leaders and warring factions to move towards reconciliation. Lebanon's Muslim leaders gave the Syrians a clear mandate to deploy troops in a bid to end the 12-year-old turmoil in the country; the deployment was seen as a first step towards the attainment of the overall goal of peace. The Syrians were still hoping to establish order in west Beirut's Shi'ite southern suburbs in order to end the "campus war" between the Palestinians and the Amal militia. They also hope to free 26 Western hostages still held by the pro-Iranian Hizbollah group and other radical militias, holed up in the western and southern districts of the embattled city.

There have been no indications yet about who might have been behind the car-bomb blast near the Syrian military headquarters that killed eight people and injured eight others. However, one cannot help but suspect pro-Iranian elements and radical Islamic groups who openly oppose the Syrian presence in west Beirut. These groups, who are also suspected of engineering intermittent clashes with Syrian forces, fear that Damascus plans to move its troops to the southern suburbs of Beirut, an area where these extremists wield undisputed power. The Hizbollah group has already lost 20 of its fighters in a clash with Syrian forces on Feb. 24, only two days after the deployment of Syrian troops, and the incident was denounced as "a massacre" by the Hizbollah.

Syria's presence in west Beirut and its plans to restore order there should not be blocked; and the leaders of political and Islamic groups who gave the Syrians a mandate in their capital, ought to take speedy steps to remove obstacles impeding progress towards peace. They should understand that Syria's options in Lebanon are limited and not at all palatable. Continued confrontation with the Islamic radicals might create renewed tension between Damascus and Tehran, a question which Syria appears to strive hard to avoid. If the Syrians went ahead with plans to impose security in southern Beirut, on the other hand, they would naturally risk getting bogged down in a quagmire of endless street fighting. At the same time, it is difficult to envisage the Syrians packing up and leaving even if the situation develops into more violence and political stalemate. The Syrians have committed themselves to bringing about a change in the war-torn Lebanese capital and there appears to be no way of going about it other than pursuing an iron-fist policy against troublemakers. It would be a wise move for all those Lebanese who hope to see peace restored to their country to realise just how serious the Syrians really are and how great their resolve is to succeed where others failed.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Israel's extremists win

THE Herut movement in the Likud bloc, which is a partner in the present government coalition in Israel, has just elected Yitzhak Shamir as leader of the movement, and also elected Sharon and two other extremist Zionists as his aides. Following the election, Shamir announced that his party will seek to maintain Israel's occupation of the occupied Arab territory for ever. Of course, this declaration is intended for the Arab Nation in general and the Palestinian people in particular. But it is also directed to the Labour Party, the other partner in the present government coalition whose leader Shimon Peres had earlier advocated negotiations over the usurped land. With this declaration, Shamir and his party have thus announced the true intentions of the Zionist movement and exposed the real aims and objectives of Israel's acts of aggression in the Arab region. Shamir is for judaizing Arab territory occupied since 1967, and scoffs at initiatives aimed at achieving peace in the area. Shamir and his colleagues who control the Likud Party are all Zionist extremists and they all call for carrying out expansionist policies in the Arab region. The declaration, coupled with Israel's continued arbitrary actions and its rejection of peace bids and the international conference, clearly reflect the general tendency among the Israeli public and show that the Israelis will not make peace with the Arabs and that they will continue to occupy Arab land and annex any part of additional land they can occupy. The Likud might win the next parliamentary election in Israel and will mobilise all Israeli extremist elements to fight any idea of reaching peace. The coming stage could be dangerous for the Arabs who are wasting time seeking peace with the enemy.

Al Dustour: Shamir heads Herut

ISRAELI Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's statement upon being elected head of the Herut movement of the Likud bloc reflects official Israeli policy regardless of the statements of his Foreign Minister Shimon Peres on peace with the Arabs. The prime minister of Israel has said that his government will hold on to the occupied Arab territories for ever. This declaration, coupled with the ongoing arbitrary actions directed against the Arab population under Israeli occupation, and Tel Aviv's intransigence with regard to an international conference on the Middle East are clear indicators of things to come. This declaration is sufficient to refute all statements by Shimon Peres about plans for talks with the Arabs over the Middle East question. Shamir is the prime minister of Israel and his statements reflect official policy which the Zionists are intent on implementing in our region. Shamir and Peres who are at the helm of the Israeli society share tactics designed to mislead world public opinion, while the Israeli authorities go ahead with plans for consolidating occupation of Arab land.

Sawt Al Shaab: Resistance will continue

THE wide scale protests and strikes staged in the occupied Arab territories on Land Day yesterday were a natural reply to Israel's plans for judaizing Arab territory and evicting the indigenous population from their homeland. The anti-Israeli protests came at a time when Tel Aviv continues to close its ears to the call of peace and continues to deny the rights of the Palestinian people. The protests were a natural reaction to the terrorist actions against the Arabs, the confiscation of their lands and the repressive measures being directed against them throughout the occupied land. The Arab people continue to rise against the Israeli authorities which close down universities and schools, detain innocent civilians and launch waves of torture, and impose a siege on Arab people and their camps and towns. The Palestinian resistance will continue as long as the Israelis pursue their repressive policies and as long as they occupy Arab land. The Land Day anniversary should move the international community to extend all forms of assistance and support for the struggle of the Palestinian people who seek freedom and legitimate rights.

Ogaden front tense despite Horn of Africa peace process

By Jonathan Wright
Reuters

BALANBALLE, Somalia — The political leaders of Ethiopia and Somalia are taking cautious steps towards peace in the Horn of Africa. But their vast armies are keeping their powder dry along a tense 1,600 kilometres border.

Around Balanballe, a Somali border town occupied by Ethiopian troops since June 1982, the troops of the two belligerent armies man trenches about one kilometre apart across a no-man's-land of thick thorn bushes.

On the Somali side of this sector, the soldiers stand all day in the sun at 10-metre intervals, watching for signs of unusual Ethiopian movement beyond the heat haze.

When foreign reporters visited the front recently, Ethiopian soldiers in a tree noticed their presence and ordered a minor mobilisation of armour from behind the front lines.

The Somalis responded in kind, moved their brigade command post up to the front and dispatched ageing M-47 tanks and personnel carriers to battle positions in case of trouble.

The incident illustrated the persistent mistrust in the Horn of Africa despite a peace summit between President Mohammed Siad Barre of Somalia and Mengistu Haile Mariam of Ethiopia in neighbouring Djibouti in January 1986.

The foreign ministers of the two countries have since held two inconclusive rounds of peace talks in Mogadishu and Addis Ababa and a third round is ex-

pected in the Ethiopian capital in the first few days of April.

Somali generals, however, say they have doubts about the extent of Ethiopia's commitment to a peaceful solution to the conflict, which centres on the fate of the ethnic Somalis living in the Ogaden region of eastern Ethiopia.

At a briefing at the ministry of defence in Mogadishu, the generals said the Ethiopian army on the Somali front seemed to be building up its strength and rearranging its forces.

"The Ethiopians are never sincere in their dialogue with neighbouring states... They are deploying military hardware and there has been unusual activity all along the border. I'm sure they're preparing another war or operations," director of operations General Yusuf Tallan said.

Ethiopia and Somalia fought in the Ogaden in 1977 and 1978. Somalia at first made rapid gains against an Ethiopian army distracted by politics in Addis Ababa but had to retreat when the Ethiopians counter-attacked with new supplies of hardware flown in from the Soviet Union.

Intermittent skirmishes have continued for the last decade at great cost to the two impoverished countries. The Somali generals said Ethiopia had 150,000 troops permanently deployed on the Somali front against their own army of around 60,000.

The last major engagement was on February 12 this year when Ethiopian troops, tanks and planes made a forceful but unsuccessful incursion into the northern province of Togdher.



Mengistu Haile Mariam

Somalia said its troops repulsed the invaders, capturing 11 Soviet-made tanks in good condition and killing 300 Ethiopian soldiers for the loss of 30 killed on their own side.

General Tallan said the Ethiopians had wanted to penetrate deep into Somalia. "It was undoubtedly aimed at (the town of) Burao, where they planned to raise the Ethiopian flag and create favourable conditions for their diabolical intentions towards Somalia," he added.

Brigadier-General Mohammed

Said Morgan, the Somali army commander on the northern front, told reporters in the northern town of Hargeysa he thought the Ethiopian objective was to reach the main road which runs through Burao, effectively cutting the country into a northern and a southern half.

The politicians have reacted to the incident with restraint and insist that the peace talks must go on. Foreign Minister Abdurahman Jama Barre, who was once considered a hardliner in the conflict with Addis Ababa, told reporters Somalia had no idea why the Ethiopians had attacked.

"It was very sad and it doesn't help the talks at all, but we are willing to continue the dialogue... Without peace we cannot develop," he said.

The president and the foreign minister said the main obstacle in the talks was a difference over priorities. Somalia wanted to start with what amounts to a disengagement of force and the resumption of diplomatic relations, while Ethiopia wanted to begin by demarcating the border, they added.

Somalia's official position is that the present border is just unofficial administrative line in-

herited from the Italian and British colonial authorities and that the Somalis of the Ogaden have the right to self-determination.

Ethiopia, with widespread sympathy from other members of the Organisation of African Unity, insists that the inherited border should be final and that it cannot tamper with its territorial integrity by recognising special Ogaden rights.

Diplomats in Mogadishu said both sides clearly wanted peace on their own terms but one or the other would have to compromise considerably if the talks were to succeed.

The report said the plan was abandoned after a friendly country, which was not named, turned down a U.S. request to carry out the operation.

The sources confirmed that the Monimbo made at least one arms delivery from Iran to Nicaragua by way of North Korea. One former official said additional deliveries may have been carried out by Cuban vessels as part of an Iranian attempt to conceal its activities on behalf of the Sandinistas.

A possible additional reason for using third country ships was that the Monimbo proved to be unseaworthy, the source said.

Another source said he recalled the Nicaraguan vessel was docked at the North Korean port of Hungnam in May 1985, the same week that U.S. officials began pursuing the possibility of opening dialogue with Iran.

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Mir Hussein Musavi met with Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega in Managua in January 1985.

Reagan cited that meeting as evidence of the "new danger" represented by the Sandinista government.

A State Department report published seven months later on Sandinista links with Middle Eastern radicals cited news accounts in January that two shiploads of arms were being sent from Iran to Nicaragua.

The department report made no mention of U.S. intelligence findings confirming the Iranian-origin shipments. So far as is known, neither Reagan nor Secretary of State George Shultz has ever referred to Iranian military support for Nicaragua.

The Reagan administration has spared no effort in condemning actions by other countries on behalf of the Sandinistas, calling frequent attention to Soviet arms deliveries and Cuba's military presence in Nicaragua in addition to the assistance provided by Libya and the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

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New twist to Iran-Nicaragua connection

By George Gedda
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Shortly before the White House began its diplomatic initiative to Iran in 1985, U.S. intelligence learned that arms were being sent from Iran to Nicaragua's leftist government, according to present and former U.S. officials.

But President Ronald Reagan's administration has never officially confirmed the alleged Iranian role in arming the Sandinistas, in contrast to its highly critical attitude about military ties between other countries and Nicaragua.

Three sources verified the Iranian-Sandinista link and suggested that the administration remained silent to promote a favourable atmosphere for its secret overtures to Iran during an 18-month period between 1985 and 1986.

Officially, State Department spokesman Charles Redman had no comment when asked about the issue on Friday.

But another State Department official said the administration had nothing to say on the subject because the Iran-Nicaragua

military connection never existed. The source, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said there was no evidence of Iranian arms shipments to the Sandinistas.

The alleged links between Iran and the Sandinistas represent a curious sidelight to the Iran-contra affair. The disclosure that profits from U.S. arms sales to Iran were earmarked for U.S.-backed guerrillas battling the leftist Nicaraguan government was an integral part of the affair that has rocked Reagan's presidency.

The sources, who asked not to be identified, said thousands of rifles and hundreds of thousands of rounds of ammunition were sent from Iran to Nicaragua aboard a Nicaraguan merchant vessel in early 1985.

The Tower Commission report said the Nicaraguan vessel Monimbo was carrying weapons to Nicaragua by way of North Korea. But investigators led by former Senator John Tower made no reference to the country of origin of the weapons.

According to the report, Lt. Col. Oliver North, the fired National Security Council staff

aide, was so worried about the delivery that he recommended the vessel either be seized or sunk.

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Communist, Muslim rebels pose twin threat to Aquino

By Robert H. Reid
The Associated Press

MANILA — An intensifying Communist insurgency and the specter of new attacks by Muslim rebels pose a twin threat to President Corason Aquino's efforts to rebuild democracy in the Philippines.

Military sources say nearly 400 people have died in stepped-up attacks by the 24,000-member Communist New People's Army, or NPA, since a 60-day ceasefire with the Communists expired on Feb. 8.

The armed forces were placed on "full combat alert" nationwide Saturday to guard against any attacks to mark the 18th anniversary of the NPA's founding.

Gen. Alexander Aguirre, commander of the Manila region, said Thursday that special police teams were being formed to hunt down guerrillas believed to be infiltrating the capital.

Government talks with Muslim rebels on ending their separate rebellion are in trouble because of differences over the extent of territory to be included in a proposed autonomous Islamic region in the south.

The Muslim rebellion now is in its 15th year.

The Philippine Daily Inquirer quoted Nur Misuari, leader of the Moro National Liberation Front, as saying his group will break off talks unless the government meets his demands.

Mrs. Aquino has vowed to crush extremists. Last Sunday she called on the 250,000-strong armed forces to deliver "a string of honourable victories."

But the violence shows no sign of abating, and the president admitted Friday she sometimes gets discouraged.

"Unfortunately, we still have some incidence of violence," she told a delegation of the International Federation of Catholic Universities. "It is during this time when I really feel very depressed."

Despite the violence, the government's attention appears focused mainly on two coming elections. Filipinos will elect members of the senate and house of representatives on May 11 and local and regional officials Aug. 25.

Defence Secretary Rafael Ilgo admitted that the military is holding back an all-out offensive against the Communists so as not to disrupt campaigning.

Government officials believe that as democratic institutions and economic development take shape, disaffected Communists and Muslims will be won over to Mrs. Aquino's efforts at reform.

The nation experienced 20 years of authoritarian government under Ferdinand E. Marcos before he was driven from the presidency into exile in February 1986.

Solita Monsod, minister of economic planning, said on television recently that the Communist insurgency should be placed in perspective. After all, she said, the rebels number "24,000 people in a country of 56 million."

But outgoing U.S. ambassador Stephen Bosworth told reporters Friday that Marcos' ouster has not been enough to end a rebellion launched for broad social and economic change.

"It is also clear, I think, that national efforts to deal with the insurgency primarily on political grounds through a process of negotiations have not proven, at least thus far, to produce the sort of results that many people had hoped," Bosworth said.

In recent congressional testimony, U.S. Assistant Defence Secretary Richard T. Armitage complained that the Aquino government has been lulled into complacency regarding the rebels because of Mrs. Aquino's popularity.

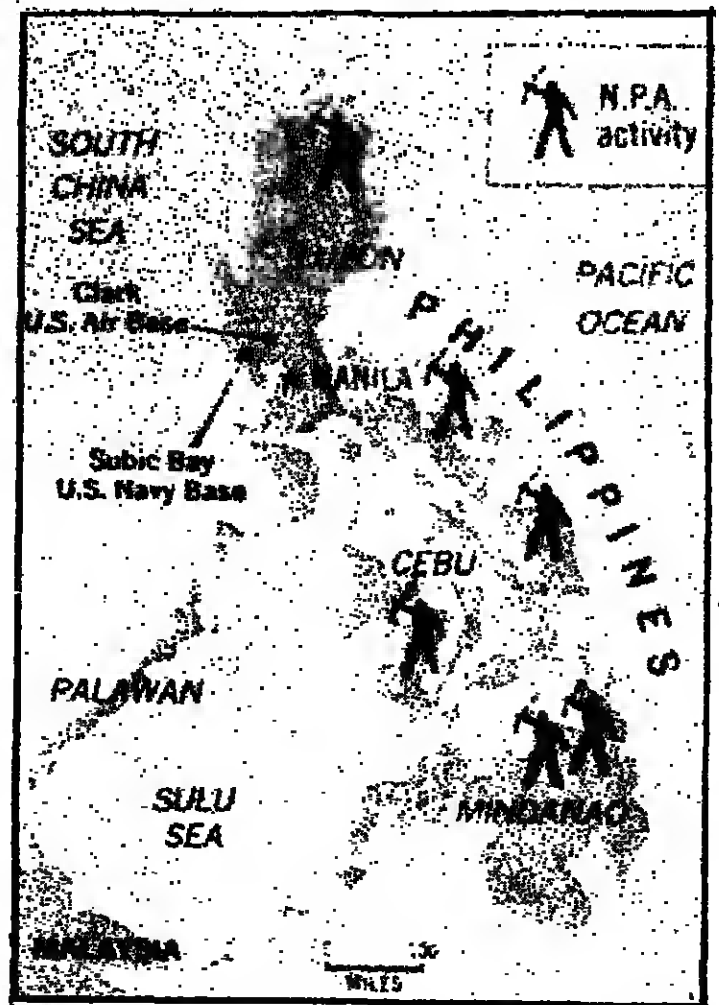
The local press assailed his comments as constituting U.S. interference in Philippine internal affairs. Mrs. Aquino fumed that her government needed military aid, not advice.

Some senior Philippine officers also have expressed worries. Last month, chief of staff Gen. Fidel V. Ramos said some in government have underestimated the insurgency and said Mrs. Aquino's popularity was not enough to defeat the rebels.

In Manila it has been easy for years to forget the war. The 20 per cent of the country under Communist control is far from the bony-tonks, well-stocked department stores and traffic-clogged streets of this city of 8 million people.

Except for recent police killings blamed on Communists, the insurgency is a rural war, much of it fought hundreds of miles from the capital.

Mrs. Aquino's centrist policies find their strongest support among the urban middle class. The NPA finds most of its re-



cruits among the impoverished rural peasantry.

Muslim rebel strongholds are far away on Mindanao island, more than 500 miles from Manila, and on a string of islands closer geographically and culturally to Malaysia than to the Philippine mainland.

Fighting in that insurgency peaked in the mid-1970s, and attacks now are limited to scattered ambushes, often directed against rival Muslims.

The military sources, who insisted on anonymity, see signs the Communists improved their combat skills with increased training during the ceasefire.

Armed forces problems include inadequate equipment, low morale and poor training — legacies of Marcos-era corruption. The ranks are riddled with political factions responsible for coup attempts against the Aquino government. Whole units have simply disappeared, signing on with local warlords as private

armies or "lost commands." The army often lacks intelligence on location of rebel units, which are well dispersed and usually number no more than 200.

By the time troops reach a staging area, the rebels are gone, tipped off by sympathetic civilians. Most military operations are pursuit missions — chasing rebels after ambushes and raids, the sources said.

To overcome this, some commanders are organising citizen groups and recruiting anti-Communist vigilantes. Some of these groups and vigilantes are receiving weapons from the military, a development that alarms human rights groups and some senior staff officers.

They fear the vigilantes could turn into private, lawless militias. Asked if he could envision such a scenario, one senior officer replied: "Have you heard of Dr. Frankenstein?"

سكنا من الدول

The efficient alternative to large power stations

By Dave Andrews

IN most of the industrialised world, generating power on a large scale has followed a trend away from large numbers of very small power stations to small numbers of very large ones. The reasons have been that coal-fired steam cycle stations showed impressive economies of scale, for large power stations could be made more efficient. Developments in high-voltage transmission meant that the large stations could be built out in the country, where land was cheap and pollution was not so noticeable.

In the U.K., generating sets work at up to well over half a thousand megawatts, compared with a few hundred kilowatts when large-scale generation of electricity began. This established model has been seen as the economical path for developing countries, too: diesel generators serving remote villages are giving way to large, central power stations, and distribution by overhead high-voltage lines.

However, this model may have been turned on its head by the development of a new kind of mini power station. Even smaller than the first power stations, it is cheaper, nearly three times as efficient and less polluting than they were. Such a station is so small that it can be tucked inside existing buildings. Large numbers of them could be installed in an industrialised or a developing country, generating power at low voltage and feeding any surplus into the public supply, to be sent to other load centres. This arrangement would save heavy investment in central power generation and high-voltage transmission lines. There are now about 200 of these small stations already installed in the U.K.

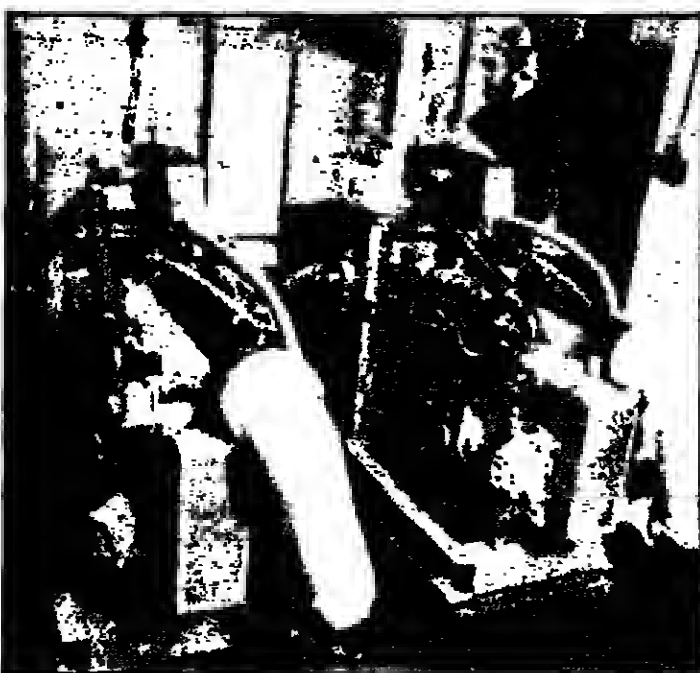
A mini power station usually consists of an industrial gas or diesel engine driving a generator, just as in a conventional station but only the fraction of the size.

A typical output is about 40 kW (kilowatts, electrical) compared with a typical conventional station's 2000 MWe (Megawatts, electrical). Mini stations now range in output from 18 kW to 2.5 MWe. Under development are units for 3 kW and 8 kW. One kilowatt of output is enough to run a single bar of an electric fire.

The mini station is fitted with equipment that enables it to be directly connected to a public supply cable and operate in parallel with it. Its output is used within the building or, if it is producing a surplus, the extra energy is sold to the public supply.

Modern electronics techniques enable systems to be produced that can start up and connect themselves to the alternating-current mains supply entirely automatically, and to stay synchronised with the mains frequency and phase. In small stations up to about 90 kW this is achieved by using an asynchronous generator, which is used first as a motor to start the engine, and then as the generator; this does away with the need for starter batteries. The asynchronous generator has the advantage that it is always synchronised with the frequency of the supply to which it is connected, so no synchronisation procedure is needed. In larger systems, where the inrush of starting from the mains would be too high, battery start and synchronous motors are used.

With a synchronous generator, automatic synchronisers are used to bring the generator into correct phase and synchronisation with the mains before the mains contactor closes. Automatic devices monitor and control all aspects of the system's performance, and either indicate alarms or shut the units down if there is any mechanical or electrical defect. Instead of a radiator to dissipate heat from the engine, as in a conventional stand-by generator set, heat exchangers are fitted so that this normally wasted heat is profitably used. Places that can benefit economically include leisure centres, hospitals, residential schools, swimming pools, prisons, hotels and factories, where the recovered heat can be used for central heating and hot water supplies, or perhaps for some industrial process. In effect, the fuel is used twice, once for generating power and a second time for producing heat.



A typical twin-set mini power station

In countries with a warm or hot climate, mini power stations still have such applications because a great deal of the heat lost is independent of external temperature, and there will be much more scope for using the engine's waste heat to generate cooling for air conditioning or refrigeration plant. In such places the waste heat is used to drive an absorption type of heat pump. This is particularly significant in developing countries, where expensive diesel-generated electricity is often used simply to provide air conditioning at very low efficiencies and high cost.

Capturing and using this normally wasted heat dramatically increases the efficiency of power generation because any generating system, whether based on nuclear or fossil fuel, always has to get rid of about two-thirds of the input fuel simply as heat, which means very low overall efficiencies if that heat cannot be used. Moreover, large power stations are usually sited out in the country, away from any building which could use such heat, so they have to waste the heat deliberately in the familiar cooling towers. A further nine per cent is lost in transmission and distribution, which brings overall efficiencies down to about 28 to 30 per cent.

By capturing this heat, mini power stations can boast efficiencies over 2.5 times that of a typical large system, thereby allowing them to produce much cheaper power.

In the U.K. and western Europe, where gas prices are low, the industrial spark ignition engine is favoured for use in mini stations. It is similar to a car engine, but is much more heavily built and is designed for extremely long life coupled with low costs of running and maintenance. The engine can run on a wide variety of fuels including landfill gas, biogas, natural gas, liquid petroleum gas, mine drainage gas and low thermal value gas from wood or crop residue gasifiers. The latest lean-burn engines have electrical efficiencies of 35 per cent, which is better overall than the efficiency of central power generation when distribution losses are taken into account. Depending on local fuel prices, an alternative might be the diesel engine. Dual-fuel engines are ruled out by their high capital cost, maintenance costs and their extra complication. The 3 kW and 8 kW units mentioned earlier are based on a rotary engine. Stirling engines, which offer the possibility of running on coal, are also looked at closely.

Typical payback times for these applications are two to four years if the equipment is installed by a consumer who can avoid the total costs of electricity supply, or perhaps three to five years if the electricity authority installs the system. Paybacks for a nuclear power station take an amazing 20 to 40 years.

A forthcoming report from the U.K. Open University's Energy Research Group shows that the technology could be well adapted to modern low-energy houses in the U.K., with one 40 kW unit shared between 40 houses linked by buried hot water pipes. Existing houses would need one 40 kW unit for 20 houses; this would be equivalent to about 2 kW of mini power station output per house.

Another idea being worked on by the British firm Applied Energy Systems, at Watford, near London, is the rotary engine mini-power station small enough to fit into individual houses. If successful it will have the advantage that hot water pipes will not be needed to link houses and it will avoid the cost of heat metering.

Comparison with the motor car engine shows that any notion of too many mini power stations being needed is wrong: there are many millions of similarly sized engines fitted in road vehicles today, and production easily keeps pace with the demand. Furthermore, by spreading the electrical source among a large number of sets ensures that the breakdown of a single station has a negligible effect on the whole system, which is not always true of very large central power stations. Put another way, when do all road vehicles break down simultaneously? And what percentage of cars do we see broken down on the motorway? Reliability is endorsed by the fact that industrial engines to drive mini power stations have been used in the oil industry for over 50 years. They are designed for very long life and there are examples that have clocked up the equivalent of 25 years' continuous running.

Sometimes it is alleged that mini stations are economic only because of low fuel prices, which may not last for long. But they convert gas into heat as efficiently as do existing gas boilers, and do not consume any extra gas for generating electricity, so the price of the electricity they produce is largely independent of the gas price. There are, too, mini stations that can run on coal dust if gas were to become prohibitively expensive.

Spreading the electronic message

Many potential users have been frightened off electronic mail through the fear of getting locked into one manufacturer's equipment. Now, Alan Cane reports, 14 of the world's top companies have combined to demonstrate that all their different systems can be fully compatible.

HANOVER — Electronic messages travel at the speed of light, but persuading computer manufacturers to work together so electronic mail can be sent easily from one make of system to another is a slower business altogether. Existing electronic mail systems are generally tied to one manufacturer's equipment or use a proprietary computer system as intermediary.

But progress is being made. At the recently opened Hanover Fair in West Germany, 14 companies from Europe, North America and Japan took part in a demonstration designed to convince potential customers that the electronic letter has come of age.

They demonstrated that an electronic messaging standard called X.400 had moved from prototype to commercial reality. They were proving that not only had the basic principles been laid down for the free interchange of electronic mail, but that manufacturers were committed to producing the necessary equipment to make it possible.

By Pony Express standards, the Hanover demonstration was unspectacular. Messages typed into equipment built by one manufacturer on the stand were sent to, and received by, computers of any of the other 13 taking part, also on the stand.

As a concession to leg-weary visitors to the show, probably the most massive technological fair in the world, the companies were divided up into groups of two or three to make the exercise more manageable.

Behind that comparatively simple demonstration, however, lay years of intensive preparation. At the French Sibex exhibition in 1985, three companies had demonstrated open messaging; by Hanover last year, the total had grown to eight. Since October last year detailed project management has been in the hands of a small U.K. consultancy, Level Seven, which has substantial experience in the design and implementation of international computing standards.

The companies taking part in the demonstration were: British Telecom and International Computers of the U.K.; Bull of France; Data General, Digital Equipment, Hewlett Packard and Xerox of the U.S.; Nixdorf, Siemens and the West German Bundespost, NTT of Japan; Olivetti of Italy; Philips of the Netherlands and Sydney Development Corporation of Canada.

IBM, the world's largest computer manufacturer, did not take part in the demonstration. As a condition of taking part, each company had either to have X.400 products available already or due for launch this year.

X.400 lays down in detail the way in which a computer system has to deal with an electronic message. The International Standards Organisation (ISO) has been for some years designing and developing a general set of rules to define how one computer system should talk to another.

These rules, the Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) standard, contain seven "layers" each concerned with a specific area of the interconnection process. The lowest layer, for example, is concerned with the physical details — plugs and sockets, as it were — of how the systems are connected together. The highest layer deals with an "application" or task running on the interconnected systems.

X.400 defines the special rules for one such application, the transmission of a message which may include text, pictures and graphics.

As such it is completely equivalent to the Manufacturing Automation Protocol (MAP) and the Technical Office Protocol (TOP) which General Motors and Boeing respectively are promoting as the way forward in manufacturing technology and office systems.

The relationship between the OSI standard and these other protocols is simple and critical. X.400, MAP and TOP are specific applications; to implement any one of them, two or more manufacturers must be able to conform to all seven layers of the OSI model.

So as Mr. Ian Valentine of Level Seven points out, the test was the single biggest demonstration of the OSI model.

According to Mr. Martyn Judd, director of Data General's European software development laboratory, pressure for the introduction of X.400 has been coming chiefly from European post, telephone and telecommunications companies.

The stumbling block, apart from rival manufacturers' reluctance to sink their proprietary approaches to communication and collaborate for their common good, has been the complexity of devising an unambiguous set of rules for communication.

As late as six days before the fair opened, one of the Hanover 14 was still unable to make a full connection; it had interpreted one of the X.400 rules in a manner which was valid but completely different from the other 13 manufacturers.

Testing is another nightmare. Mr. Judd of Data General points out that to test all possible combinations of one area of the X.400 rules at five minutes a test could take one manufacturer up to two years.

Mr. Valentine says the most important lesson from the Hanover demonstrations was that customers could now buy electronic messaging with confidence and without the fear that they would inevitably be "locking" themselves into one particular manufacturer.

Recent surveys have suggested that companies are nowhere near so enthusiastic about electronic mail and electronic document interchange (electronic ordering and invoicing) as had been predicted. The success of the Hanover 14 could go a long way towards changing that attitude — Financial Times feature.

Baghdad's famed old city disappears under highrises

By John Rice
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq — The historic old Baghdad of teeming bazaars, secluded brick houses and serpentine streets is falling before the highrise and the highway.

A 20-year development effort launched in 1980 is transforming the exotic city into an oil-rich modern metropolis, echoing changes in Iraqi society itself.

Along Haifa Street, site of a major redevelopment project, trim new apartment blocks tower over a tumbledown remnant of mud-brick neighbourhoods that cling like a crust of the past to the West Bank of the Tigris River. The ancient city of Baghdad, dating mainly from the 8th century, was built on the west bank during the golden era of Caliph Haroun Al Rashid of The Thousand and One Nights when Arab culture flourished.

Broad new streets and office blocks have carved chunks from the old neighbourhoods on the east side, where a shift of resources into the costly war effort against Iran has delayed redevelopment.

While tourists may mourn the loss of old Baghdad, many residents appear glad to trade it for the Los Angeles of the Arab World rising along the palm-lined expressways.

Deputy mayor Abdul Hussein Sheikh Ali, pointing from his upper-story office window at a maze of streets and crumbling houses said, "We shall develop all this area because it is rezoned. We shall make it offices."

The lanes below cut at odd angles, running between houses with platforms of wooden lattice, slats and carvings that jut over the street from second stories.

The platforms, called *shashil*, allowed families to look out without being seen, and permitted air to circulate freely. The elaborate teak woodwork on many is weather-scarred, broken and sagging on many houses. Plaster arabesques over the doors are chipped.

A traditional home guarded privacy. Blank walls faced the street while the rooms opened onto an interior courtyard, centre of life for what was generally a large, extended family.

"Families are being fragmented now ... they're living in apartments or small houses," said Laith Ismail Namig, dean of the engineering school at Baghdad University.

Women are no longer so sheltered and restricted to the home. Iraq's socialist government and the demand for labour due to the war have pulled women into the

economic mainstream, leaving less need for a large house or time to maintain it.

The rule of privacy held most houses in old Baghdad to a common height of two or three stories, so that no one could peer onto the rooftop where his neighbours slept during the sweltering summer, a tradition still common in Iraq.

With the city population at 4 million and climbing, planners have turned to high-rise, air-conditioned buildings.

"You can't sleep on the roof of a 50-story building," Namig lamented.

The homes guard privacy, but the streets outside team with life — children play, old women sell turnips simmered in steaming date juice, woodworkers send sawdust and the noise of hammering into the street.

In the street markets and bazaars, or souks, labyrinthine alleyways are lined with stalls vending fragrant spices, jewelry, brightly-coloured Kurdish rugs, gee-gaws, silverware, fruit and vegetables.

Amid the clang of coppermiths beating pots into shape, customers duck rushing tea vendors and step across puddles of foul-smelling water.

Here, too, the city has decayed from the top. A second story of brickwork is largely abandoned in many areas. The stalls there once served as hostels for traders in the days before hotels.

Baghdad has decided to save the main souk, perhaps the most vibrant reminder of its heritage, and to renovate historic Rashid Street, which runs beside it.

A preservation programme also will save small sections of historic houses near the downtown mosque of Al Gaylani and the massive, double-domed Shi'ite Muslim shrine of Kadhim-mah north of the city.

Nothing remains from the days of Caliph Haroun. A few of the oldest mosques and monuments date to the 12th century, shortly before the Mongols razed the capital of the Arab World.

The government has already rebuilt some homes, a few of them standing incongruously on Haifa Street.

But Talid Al Taleb, head of Baghdad University's architecture department, said romance had to be tempered with the needs of a modern society.

"A whole section of the old city can't be preserved as a tourist attraction," he said. "Respect for tradition often doesn't go with poverty. It goes with development. In the past, they used to call them ruins. Now we call them traditional homes."

Youth suicide increases in Japan

By Monika Jain
The Associated Press

TOKYO — For centuries suicide was an adult expression of honour and responsibility in Japanese society, but now it is becoming an escape for youths who cannot cope with society's changing demands.

It also is a "copycat" phenomenon. A national police agency report in February said the number of suicides by people under age 19 rose 44 per cent last year, to 802 from 557 in 1985.

Many were youngsters who jumped from roofs of buildings after 18-year-old pop singer Yuko Okada used that method of killing herself in April because of an unhappy love affair.

Attention has focused on youth suicide in the United States because some 11 young people took their own lives by carbon monoxide poisoning in recent weeks.

Aiko Kanazawa, a counselor for the Youth Affairs Administration in Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone's office, said the method of Miss Okada's death: "was apparently copied, like in the United States."

He said the number of young people jumping off roofs more than doubled last year, from 121 in 1985 to 272. The total was 114 in April alone, including 52 girls, an increase from 52 youth suicides in the same month of 1985.

Kanazawa said the upward

trend continued well into October 1986 but had appeared to stabilise since.

"Some of the people who died killed themselves because they felt sorry for her (Miss Okada) and wanted to be in heaven with her," he said. A few left notes mentioning the singer.

Youngsters see the world and adults as "evil," convincing themselves "they can go to heaven and live beautifully" if they die.

Figures from the U.S. National Centre for Health Statistics show 12 suicides for every 100,000 Americans aged 15-24 in 1985.

In Japan, Health and Welfare Ministry data show 6.8 suicides for every 100,000 males aged 15-19 and 19.9 in the 20-24 age group. There were 3.3 suicides among every 100,000 Japanese females aged 15-19 and 8.7 in the age group 20-24.

"Unlike American children, Japanese kids hold in all their emotions and frustrations," said Tamotsu Sengoku, director of the Japan Youth Research Institute. "They are under a lot of pressure

from school and need to vent their energy in some way."

Suicide sometimes results if they lack other outlets, he said. Japan's fiercely competitive education system, in which children must take entrance exams even for some kindergartens, appears in police reports often as the main reason for a suicide.

Monthly suicide statistics frequently rise in March and April, at the end of the period when students get the results of university entrance exams.

"Education plays a big role" in suicide, said Dr. Hiroshi Inamura, a specialist in social psychiatry at Tsukuba University. He added that many students have a "low tolerance level for frustration," so when things go wrong the pressure becomes overwhelming.

Japanese children, especially junior high school students, tend to have "a romantic view of death," said Inamura, who has written several books on suicide.

Many children believe that "even if a person dies, he lives somewhere else ... or is reborn as an animal or other human being," the psychiatrist said.

Such thinking has increased, especially among girls, and the youngsters eventually see the world and adults as "evil," convincing themselves "they can go

to heaven and live beautifully" if they die, according to Inamura.

Tradition has accorded an honorable role to *hara-kiri*, in which a sword is used for self-disembowement.

During World War II, Japanese pilots deliberately crashed planes into enemy ships. At the war's end, some men and women committed *hara-kiri* to apologise to Emperor Hirohito for the defeat.

People killed themselves in the past to shoulder responsibility, said Sengoku of the Youth Research Institute, but now many commit suicide to escape it.

Some authorities blame the increasingly affluent society, contending that children are not taught the importance of life and equipped with the necessary social skills to cope with it.

"In the past, many experienced death from living with their grandparents," said Kanazawa of the Youth Affairs Administration. "They learned what a drastic thing it is."

He said the shift away from three generations living in the same house means "the children don't see their grandparents die and so cannot get a real feeling of how frightening and serious death is."

Inamura, the psychiatrist, said Japanese youngsters are overprotected and "have not known suffering in their childhood."

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Former No. 2 Jaeger begins tennis comeback

CHARLESTON, S.C. (R) — Andrea Jaeger, now 21, and unranked on the Women's International Tennis Association computer, began a comeback when she won a first round match in a \$75,000 women's tennis tournament.

Jaeger, a wild card entry, defeated unseeded American compatriot, Susan Sloane, 6-3, 6-2 to move into the second round.

"I love sport and competing and since I can't try out for the football team, here I am," Jaeger said.

Jaeger was once world number two and reached the Wimbledon final in 1983.

She made an initial comeback early in 1985 but was sidelined after surgery to remove cysts under her arm and it still plagued by the shoulder problems which originally took her of the tour in 1984.

Jaeger still claims it was her health, and not burnout that forced her to quit three years ago.

"It irritates me when they talk

about burnout," Jaeger said. "I wasn't burned out or why would I try to come back? I'm not coming back for anyone but me and I never left for anyone but myself."

Jaeger had little trouble with Sloane, who plays a similar style of heavy hitting from the baseline. Jaeger showed much of her former flair, beating Sloane from the backcourt with penetrating groundstrokes.

In a first round upset, 14th seed Marcella Mesker of The Netherlands was defeated by unseeded Andrea Holikova of Czechoslovakia, 3-6, 7-6, 6-4. Holikova defeated in the United States two months ago.

Other seeds to advance included 10th seeded American Michelle Torres, a 6-4, 6-2 winner, over compatriot Amy Holton, 11th seeded Camille Benjamin with a 6-4, 6-4 victory over Brazil's Patricia Medrado and 12th seeded Argentine Marianna Perez-Roldan, posting a 6-1, 6-4 triumph over Marie-Christine Calleja of France.

Hu Na upsets Rinaldi in indoor tennis

PISCATAWAY, New Jersey (R) — Hu Na, 78th in the world, upset third-seeded American Kathy Rinaldi 1-6, 6-4, 6-3 to advance to the second round of the \$150,000 Women's Indoor Championships.

Second-seeded Helena Sukova of Czechoslovakia breezed through the first round with a 6-4, 6-0 victory over Australian Dianne Balestrat, and eighth-seeded West German Sylvia Hanika was forced to three sets before eliminating Britain's Jo Durie 3-6, 6-4, 6-3.

Rinaldi, tenth in the world, dropped only one game in the first set Monday night and took a 1-0 lead in the second set before Na began forcing errors from the 20-year-old Rinaldi by venturing to the net.

Rinaldi felt her erratic play from the baseline let her down. "I wasn't very pleased with myself. I was up and down the whole match. I won the first set easily, and then I just made too many errors," said Rinaldi, who had beaten Na in their two previous meetings.

S. African downs American Jones in Chicago tourney

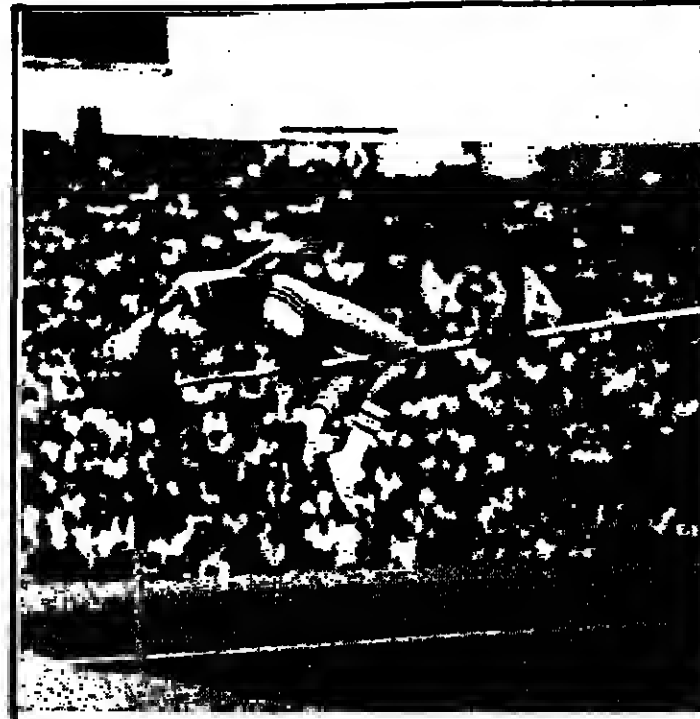
CHICAGO (AP) — Seventh-seeded Christo Van Rensburg of South Africa eliminated "wild card" entrant Kelly Jones, United States, 6-3, 7-5, in the opening round of the \$315,000 Volvo Chicago Tennis Tournament.

Van Rensburg, rated 39th in the world, used a booming serve and a variety of passing shots to subdue Jones but didn't grab the victory until an umpire's ruling cost Jones the 11th game.

Also advancing were Eliot Teltscher, Dan Goldie, Peter Fleming, Sammy Giammalva and Mel Purcell.

After Van Rensburg went up 6-5 in the second set, the South African ended the match Monday night in the 12th game on a pair of aces and two unforced errors.

In other matches, Giammalva, United States, defeated Eric Korita, United States, 6-3, 6-4; Peter Fleming, United States, ousted Eddie Edwards of South Africa, 6-1, 7-6 (7-4);



UP AND OVER: Young Bulgarian athlete Stefka Kostadinova sets new world record in the high jump at an international track and field meet in Sofia. With this record jump, she cleared 208 centimetres. The 21-year-old has an impressive 30 consecutive victories in the high jump at international competitions (Photo: Boris Razakliev, Sofia Press Agency)

Indiana edges Syracuse for college basketball title

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Bob Knight has his third National Basketball Championship as coach at Indiana University — unexpectedly, and with help from an unlikely source.

Led by junior college transfer Keith Smart, a support player during the season, the Hoosiers defeated Syracuse 74-73 Monday night to win the same title they won under Knight in 1981 and 1976.

In 1976, the Indiana stars were Kent Benson and Scott May. In 1981, it was Isiah Thomas and Ray Tolbert. This time, it was Smart and Steve Alford, Darryl Thomas, and Dean Garrett.

For Syracuse, the game represented 30 seconds of broken dreams. Leading 73-72 with a half-minute to play, Syracuse saw its star forward, freshman Derrick Coleman, miss from the free-throw line. Then, after Smart's baseline jumper with five seconds left put Indiana ahead, the Syracuse players were unable to get a

FISA drops Canadian Grand Prix over delay

PARIS (R) — The Canadian Formula One Grand Prix has been cancelled by the International Motor Sports Federation (FISA) because the organisers could not guarantee in time the running of the race, a FISA spokeswoman said Tuesday.

The decision followed a legal dispute between two breweries over sponsoring the race, which had been scheduled to take place in Montreal on June 14.

FISA said in a statement that its executive committee had decided to take the race off the 1987 calendar but stressed the ban was just for one year.

The statement did not refer to the dispute between the Labatt and Molson breweries, but said: "No guarantee could be given by the organisers in reasonable time for the running of this Grand Prix."

FISA had already decided the Grand Prix calendar would be reduced from 17 races to 16 but it had been expected that one of the European races would be dropped.

Labatt Monday won the right to stage the race but the organisers had been told it would be dropped.

The Quebec superior court ruled Labatt's contract with the city of Montreal giving it control over the track is binding, and granted the firm a permanent injunction barring the city from finding other sponsors.

Labatt said the ruling also recognised its right of first refusal over the track for the next five years.

Labatt, in the final year of a

It's make or break for Austria in tie with Spain

VIENNA (R) — Austria, still smarting from a crushing 4-0 defeat by Yugoslavia in a friendly last week, knows that anything less than victory against Spain today will mark the end of its European Championship hopes.

Spain has won both its Group One matches to date against Romania and Albania and has made it clear it intend cashing in on Austria's apparent decline.

"You always want to win in football and we want to leave Vienna as winners," said Spanish manager Miguel Munoz, hiding his anxiety over the loss of defensive lynchpin Andoni Goikoetxea and midfielder Rafael Gordillo, both of whom are injured.

Munoz is likely to draft in Athletic Bilbao's promising 22-year-old defender Genaro Andriana and the experienced Real Zaragoza midfielder Juan Senor.

The uncapable Andriana broke into the Bilbao first team only this season and though he usually plays sweeper, will probably assume the responsibility of marking Austrian danger-man

Toni Polster.

Real Madrid's versatile Ricardo Gallego will be given the role of libero, and much may depend on the service he can give, club colleague Emilio Butragueno, Spain's leading scorer in the World Cup in Mexico last summer.

"I hope I can reproduce the form I showed in Mexico, especially in the match against Denmark," said Butragueno, referring to the four goals he scored against Denmark in the second round.

Austrian team chief Branko Elsner, who has to rebuild his side's confidence after the Yugoslav humiliation, is resigned to losing injured midfielders Karl Brauner and Rudolf Steinhauser while defender Gerald Messlender faces a fitness test shortly before the kick-off.

"It won't be easy but we must erase the memory of Yugoslavia and concentrate on Spain," Elsner said. "I still hope Messlender will play... if not we could be in trouble."

Cycling great Hinault has no regrets over retiring

LONDON (R) — Bernard Hinault is missing from the saddle this season, but the French cycling hero says he has no regrets about his decision to quit the sport.

"No regrets at all," said Hinault, who prefers to look ahead.

"I arranged it that way because I think you need a certain time for biding. But there's more to life. After a certain point you have to change at all costs and do something else," he told Reuters.

The sturdy, dark-haired Frenchman is now spending his time cultivating his Breton farm, running a toy business and doing promotion and research work for a cycle accessories company.

"I was all too aware of the example of some racers who tended to want to carry on, and then found it hard to quit. A number of them, in other sports too, have wanted to go too far, and then one day found themselves up against a brick wall, not knowing what to do next. I didn't want that," he said.

With that in mind, the former world champion and five times Tour de France winner retired just before his 32nd birthday last November, an occasion marked by a two-day sports festival in his native Brittany and a huge banquet open to all.

Asked whom he rates most highly among current professionals, he mentions young Frenchman Jean-Francois Bernard.

Asked about his famous nickname, "The Badger", he replied: "We'll see. I hope so."

Hinault, whose tenacity earned him the nickname "the badger" on the circuit, says he will not be nostalgic when the Tour de France starts without him this summer, and is not tempted to return to the sport.

But he grins broadly when asked about his famous nickname.

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S. Korea plans facelift for 1988 Olympics

SEOUL (R) — South Korea plans a huge clean-up, the planting of tens of millions of trees and training for more than a million service workers in preparation for next year's Seoul Olympics, Interior Minister Chung Ho-Yong said Tuesday.

Chung told a press conference his ministry was launching a campaign to promote better public order and etiquette as well as a clean-up for homes.

He said "Olympic parks" would be created in major cities, tens of millions of trees would be planted and more than 300,000 buildings and signboards would be refurbished across the country as part of the facelift.

A facelift is in store for the 4,066-kilometre (2,524 mile) course along which the Olympic flame will be carried in relay by thousands of runners for the opening ceremony on Sept. 17.

The games organisers say the torch will be kindled by the sun's rays at the Temple of Hera in Olympia, Greece, and airlifted to the southern South Korean island of Cheju.

The torch will be then shipped to the south-eastern port of Pusan before starting a 22-day trip north to Seoul on a zigzag course connecting 60 major cities and towns.

Tyson to defend titles against Pinklon Thomas

NEW YORK (R) — Heavyweight champion Mike Tyson will put his World Boxing Association (WBA) and World Boxing Council (WBC) titles on the line against fellow American Pinklon Thomas on May 30, a spokesman for the promoter said.

Murphy Goodman, spokesman for Don King Productions, which will promote the fight, said the scheduled 15-round bout will take place at the Las Vegas Hilton.

Tyson, at 20 the youngest heavyweight champion in history, has a record of 29-0 with 26 opponents stopped inside the distance. The 29-year-old Thomas is 29-1-1 with 24 opponents stopped before the final bell.

Tyson added the WBA heavyweight title to his WBC crown earlier this month when he won a unanimous decision over American James "Bonecrusher" Smith.

He faces a minimum penalty of 15 years in prison and a fine of \$125,000.

Serrano, 34, pleaded guilty to one count of possession with the intent to distribute 750 grams of cocaine in a plea bargain agreement reached in federal court.

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British soccer fans to make 1st Belgian visit since Heysel

BRUSSELS (R) — British soccer fans will be in Belgium officially this week for the first time since the country banned them after the 1985 Heysel Stadium disaster in which 39 people were killed in rioting.

The European Football Union (UEFA) indefinitely barred English clubs from the continent after English and Italian fans clashed before the Liverpool-Juventus European Cup final on May 29, 1985 in one of the worst incidents of soccer violence.

Belgium, which clamped a ban on all British fans, including those from Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, has lifted it on a one-time basis for Wednesday's Belgium-Scotland European Championship qualifying match in Anderlecht.

The Belgian soccer union approved requests for tickets for about 250 Scottish fans, who will come on trips organised by Glasgow-based travel agencies, a spokesman for the union said.

Belgian authorities originally offered 1,000 tickets to the Scot-

ish Football Association, but it rejected the offer, saying too many conditions had been placed on their sale.

The government has forbidden the local sale of tickets to anyone with a British passport, angering Brussels-based Scottish supporters who say this is unfair.

John Wilson, a fan from Glasgow who works at the European Commission here, told Reuters he was furious at being refused tickets for his family and friends because he was British.

"It's disgraceful. They're just discriminating against people on the ground of nationality," he said.

"That's no way to prevent football hooliganism. They (the Belgian authorities) should be stepping up security at the stadiums instead, and preventing drunks and people with firearms from getting in."

Non-Britons buying tickets for the match in Belgium are being asked to sign a declaration they will not sell them to British citizens, the Belgian Soccer Union said.

U.S. college probes recruiting scandal

DALLAS (AP) — Southern Methodist University (SMU) has hired a private investigator to look into allegations that women students were paid to have sex with football team recruits and other students hired to take tests for athletes, a university professor says.

Lonnie Kliever, a religious studies professor who headed the school's investigation into the football scandal, told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram newspaper that university officials decided to hire the investigator after receiving anonymous telephone calls outlining the scheme.

The allegations surfaced when Dallas broadcaster Norm Hitzges quoted unidentified sources as saying that beginning in 1979, two women students were paid \$400 to have sex with football team prospects visiting the school on weekends.

Hitzges said the grade-fixing and sex-for-pay scheme became known to Texas Governor Bill Clements and some other members of the SMU board of governors. Clements chaired the

board before stepping down in January when he became governor.

But Clements denied "any knowledge whatsoever of such practices. I abhor the idea of these kinds of activities if they exist, which I know nothing about," he said.

Kliever said S. Leon Bennett, SMU vice president for legal affairs, was told about the favours for athletes in anonymous phone calls last week.

"In the present climate, they felt they had to take the calls seriously and they retained a private investigator to look into them," Kliever told the newspaper.

In addition to hiring the investigator, SMU officials have also appointed a committee to look into the matter.

The Rev. Barry Bailey, minister of the First United Methodist Church of Fort Worth and a member of the SMU board of trustees, said the board was informed of the allegations during a meeting by interim SMU President William Stallcup.

The broadcast report is the latest in the pay-for-players scandal that resulted in the National Collegiate Athletic Association's (NCAA) decision Feb. 25 to suspend SMU's football programme for 1987.

The NCAA found that 13 players were paid \$61,000 from a fund created by team boosters after the school was placed on probation for the sixth time in August 1985 for illegalities involving the football team.

The one-year ban was the most severe penalty ever imposed by the NCAA on a U.S. college football team. Southern Methodist, a church-supported school of 9,000 students, has a tradition of fielding strong teams.

On March 3 Clements disclosed that in 1985 he and some members of the board discussed booster payments that they knew were being made to SMU athletes and decided to phase them out.

Hitzges said it was at a meeting at Clements' house at that time that he and other board members also discussed the problem of grade-fixing and paying coeds to have sex with athletes.

The radio station quoted sources as saying women students were paid to lure the young men with the promise of more sex if they signed at SMU and to get information from them about what other schools were offering the recruits to sign.

Other students were paid to take tests, steal exams and write papers for athletes, Hitzges said.

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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets on Tuesday.

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One U.S. dollar	1.3123/28	Canadian dollar
	1.8040/50	West German marks
	2.0360/70	Dutch guilders
	1.5053/65	Swiss francs
	37.36/39	Belgian francs
	6.0080/0130	French francs
	1285/1287	Italian lire
	146.00/10	Japanese yen
	6.3200/50	Swedish crowns
	6.8100/50	Norwegian crowns
	6.8150/8200	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	419.40/90	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices rebounded from the midday lows in late trading, reflecting the higher opening on Wall Street and a rise in FTSE 100 index futures, dealers said.

By 1441 GMT the FTSE 100 index had swung round to show a fall of 3.7 points to 1,998.8, rising from a low of 1,981.5. Dealers said volume started to pick up late in the afternoon as FTSE 100 index futures quotations began to indicate a rise on Wall Street. The early New York rise was said by dealers to be largely technical in reaction to Monday's steep falls. But traders noted there were still fears that a trade war could break out with Japan.

Equities dropped towards midsession in a continuation of Monday's declines which in terms of the FTSE 100 index spewed the largest ever points drop. Dollar earning exporters led the way lower in the earlier part of the session, dealers said.

Market analysts had foreseen that the downturn started on Monday could have continued for at least the next few sessions as the strong new year rally was bound to attract profit-taking. Dealers said the rebound could still be technical as investors sort out their positions, noting Tuesday's relatively thin trading was making market moves appear unreliable.

Oil workers step up strike in Turkey

ANKARA (R) — Some 5,000 members of the Turkish oil workers' union Petrol-Is stopped work Tuesday, joining a similar number already on strike, the Union said.

Petrol-Is Chairman Cevdet Selvi told Reuters Tuesday's walk-out affected 33 plants, mainly making vehicle batteries and paint.

The union, in dispute with the oil industry employers' union Kiplas over its demand for a single contract covering all members, has already had 5,000 members on strike since March 18, some at fertilizer factories.

The strike comes at a time of mounting labour unrest. Police last week halted a planned march to parliament by the main trade union grouping Turk-Is.

It wanted to deliver a letter calling for full democracy and better living standards and for lifting what the union called unjustified restrictions on the rights and freedoms of workers.

Some 300,000 workers are affected by present or planned strikes, mostly in pay disputes, the liberal daily Milliyet said.

"The strike is only a means to our end. We don't want to strike but are obliged to under these conditions," Mr. Selvi said.

Petrol-Is has 80,000 members at 600 workplaces, but those at oil installations are covered by a ban on strikes where they would be deemed contrary to the national interest, public health and services.

Shock waves hit world financial markets

TOKYO (R) — Shock waves from the dollar's slide and a U.S. threat to hit Japanese imports with punitive tariffs reverberated around the world's major markets Tuesday.

As currency, bond and stock markets shuddered in the United States, Japan, and Europe, the governments and central bank authorities of the major industrialised nations were given a lesson in what it really means to have truly interdependent, global financial markets.

The spectre of a U.S.-Japan trade war, sparked by Washington's threat to stick a \$300 million penalty on Japanese imports unless Tokyo opens its markets further, sent Wall Street crashing down Monday night in the third biggest decline in its history to 2,278 on the Dow Jones index.

The Wall Street failure extended the gloom for Tokyo shares Tuesday, which had already dipped sharply on Monday, and carried the London market down Tuesday morning.

In the currency markets, two days of concerted central bank intervention by the United States, Japan, West Germany and Britain, a move which would have had currency dealers in headlong flight only a few months ago, failed miserably.

The dollar slipped below 145 yen on Monday and is holding just around 146 despite billions of dollars intervention.



Tokyo stock exchange

market in Tokyo fell further after Monday's New York massacre of U.S. securities, described by one U.S. dealer as a "bloodbath."

Japanese institutional dealers said they would not buy any more U.S. bonds while the declining dollar threatened them with losses as soon as they moved their money out of yen and into the dollar bonds.

European currency dealers, looking beyond the yen's rise, said the West German mark could also start to rise again against the dollar later this week. The dollar is now just over 1,800 marks.

Meanwhile, to cool U.S. tempers, Mr. Nakasone announced Tuesday that Japan will work out

a drastic set of stimulatory measures to get Japanese domestic demand growing and cut reliance on export-led growth.

To do so, Mr. Nakasone suggested that budgetary restrictions of the last five years might be lifted. This would be a major concession to U.S. demands because Tokyo is also trying to cut back a huge national budget deficit.

Japanese manufacturers of electronic computer chips also announced that they will be slashing production and increasing imports of the semiconductors.

The U.S. move on tariffs is particularly aimed at this sector after Washington alleged that

Japan violated a bilateral pact to balance two-way trade in the chips.

However, as the Tokyo day drew to a close, Bank of Japan officials said they had a few more options up their sleeves to stop the yen rise, even if the market refused to cooperate.

A senior bank official said Japan might invoke a series of currency swap agreements with friendly central banks.

Such agreements, which effectively shuffle available cash between central banks when they start to run out of each others' currencies, could put a powerful new weapon into the hands of the monetary authorities.

Musavi meets Iranian bankers

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iran's Prime Minister Hussein Musavi has met with bank directors led by the governor of the central bank, Mr. Majid Qassemi, in Tehran, apparently as part of the government's drive to revitalize Iran's war-battered economy.

Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA), monitored in Nicosia, said Musavi outlined the government's monetary policy at the meeting Monday and stressed the banking system played a key role.

The agency said that Musavi noted that one of the "major achievements of the Islamic revolution" had been to put the banking system "at the service of the nation."

IRNA did not elaborate or give any details of the discussions. But the meeting followed major banking changes in Iran, including the replacement on virtually all senior banking officials since Mr. Qassemi was named as governor of Bank Markazi, the central bank, last November.

Since then the central bank has made sweeping policy changes, particularly working more closely with the finance ministry and following a less strictly monetary policy. This has centered on allowing expenditure and inflation to rise in a bid to revive the Iranian economy. This has meant an easing of restrictions on government borrowing from banks to cut down on foreign borrowing.

Banks file major test suit against Saudi firm

BAHRAIN (R) — Four international banks have filed claims for 131.2 million riyals (\$35 million) against the owners of Saudi construction and trading group Abdullah Fouda and Sons Company, bankers and lawyers in the kingdom said.

Bankers said the suit may prove to be a test case for banks which have so far been largely frustrated in their attempts to reclaim loans through the Saudi Arabian legal system.

They expected it to be closely followed. Citibank, Bank of America, Arab Banking Corp (ABC) and the Bank of Bahrain and Kuwait (BBK) filed claims with a special

Saudi court under the jurisdiction of the ministry of commerce on March 7, the bankers and lawyers said.

A hearing at the Dammam Court, the negotiable instruments committee, has been set for April 19.

A company spokesman declined comment. The company was hit by the decline in Saudi Arabia's economy but chairman Sheikh Abdullah Fouda arranged to settle debts with Saudi bank creditors by ceding them a hospital, shares and an office building, bankers said.

The four non-Saudi banks, however, decided to press their claims in the court.

"Foreign banks have over gone into a big borrower like this, they usually give in," one lawyer said.

"But this time, they decided to draw the line. The banks are taking the strategy to sue," he added.

The bankers and lawyers said claims are based on promissory notes signed by the limited liability company and backed by personal guarantees signed by Sheikh Abdullah Fouda, his two wives and his sons and daughters. The claims are for a 34.2 million riyal (\$9 million) loan from

ABC, a 42 million riyal (\$11 million) syndicated loan led by Bank of America and including BBK and two loans of 15 million riyals (\$4 million) and 40 million (\$10.7 million) from Citibank.

The loans were signed between July 1984 and January 1985.

The four non-Saudi banks have decided not to claim interest from the company, taking the view they would have little chance of obtaining a favourable judgment from the court.

Banks have frequently found Saudi Arabia's legal system based on Sharia (Islamic law) does not recognise the Western concept of interest.

Spaniards stage strikes and protests

MADRID, Spain (AP) — Workers at the Spanish state airlines Iberia and Aviaco on Tuesday began their second 24-hour strike in a week for higher wages. Also, unemployed doctors and dairy farmers prepared protests against government economy policies.

Iberia and Aviaco officials said the strike was expected to affect up to 250,000 travellers.

On March 27, a strike by workers of the two airlines affected 250,000 passengers and caused combined losses of 500 million pesetas (\$3.9 million).

Meanwhile, an estimated 8,000 of the 25,000 unemployed doctors in Spain demonstrated in the Spanish capital aimed at pressuring the government into providing jobs for them in the national health system.

Dairy farmers also demonstrated Tuesday in the north western region of Galicia, which produces 25 per cent of the Spain's milk.

The farmers are angry over production quotas Spain accepted as a condition for entering the European Community in 1986.

The farmers took part in tractor convoys and roadblocks of major highways and the regional capital of Santiago De Compostela.

Officials at Iberia said all but 32 of the company's 330 daily domestic and international flights had been cancelled, while Aviaco Airlines, a domestic carrier, was forced to cancel all but 19 of its 62 daily flights.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Today it is necessary to use much caution where financial and other practical interests are concerned. Expect delays in being able to put across any deals.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Scheduling a wise course to handle your material affairs is necessary to gain your ambitions accurately.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You may find it difficult to get your point across, but don't fret since tomorrow conditions improve for you.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) The best way to handle a problem is to study it objectively and handle it logically. You're so worried of it.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) You may be closer to gaining some goal for which you have long labored, so don't give up now.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Don't get involved in outside matters of a credit nature today. A bigwig who understands you is too busy to help.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sep. 22) Avoid an argument with one who is very stubborn. Make an effort to understand his, or her, views.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You have made a promise that you want to break, but do nothing as yet. Your mate needs your support now.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Be sure you listen attentively to what a partner says. Keep working on a public affair that seems stalemated.

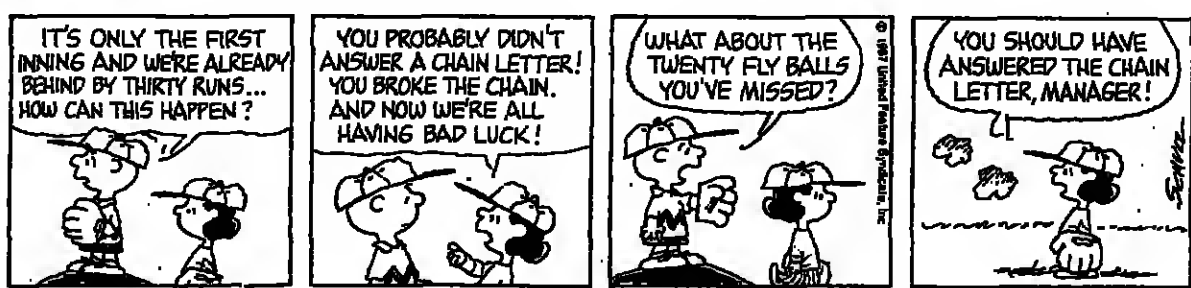
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You may be annoyed at some part of your activities, but handle this objectively for the right results.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) A good friend may be in a strange mood today and will not agree with an amusemen plan you've made, so forget it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Control your temper since the wrong word at home could cause a severe quarrel to ensue.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Study communications well and overcome any difficulties connected with them. Don't take any risks today.

Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



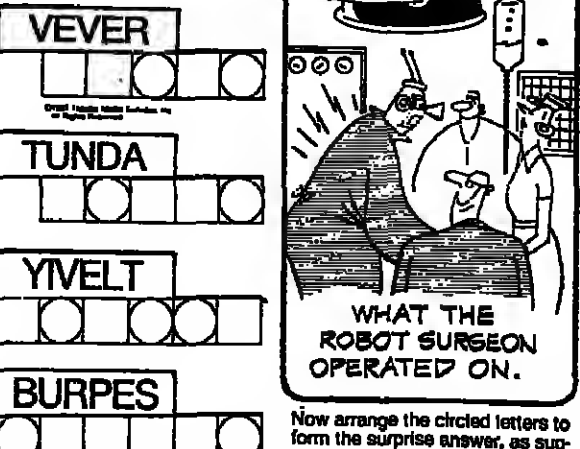
THE BETTER HALF.



"It's a bill for the air we breathed last month!"

JUMBLE.

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Print answer here: _____

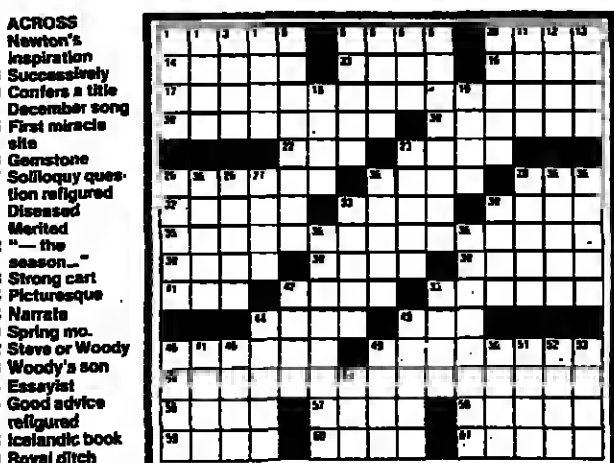
(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: SINGE DOWNY WORTHY KINLEY

Answer: Another name for a suit of armor — A "TIGHT GOWN"

THE Daily Crossword

by Gayle Dean



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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

- ACROSS
- 1 Newton's
- 5 Sincerely
- 10 Confers a title
- 14 December song
- 15 First miracle site
- 19 Geostation
- 21 Soliloquy question refused
- 22 Disposed
- 23 Married
- 24 — the season —
- 25 Strong cart
- 26 Picture
- 28 Narrate
- 29 Spring mo.
- 32 Stars or Woody
- 33 Woody's son
- 34 Essayist
- 35 Good advice
- 36 Intellectual book
- 38 Royal ditch
- 40 Family circle member
- 41 Wind etc.
- 42 Included with
- 43 — no business —
- 44 Paraphrase
- 45 Hidden
- 46 Embitter
- 47 Race phrase
- 48 Refrained
- 49 Decoy
- 50 A Ford
- 51 Autocrat
- 52 Mild oath
- 53 Distribute
- DOWN
- 1 Play part
- 2 Chess piece
- 3 Educator for
- 4 Brain part
- 5 Pulling the
- 6 Farm measure
- 7 "Fountainhead" author
- 8 Battle mate
- 9 Deastrous
- 10 Marriage property
- 11 Once — a time
- 12 Bunyan's or
- 13 Husky vehicle
- 14 Of the ear
- 15 African
- 16 Netherland
- 17 Pottery
- 18 Targets for
- 19 yagga
- 20 Blackheads
- 21 Avoid by
- 22 cunning
- 23 Show part
- 24 Horrible —
- 25 Fragment
- 26 Apprehend
- 27 Sham
- 28 Pa. part
- 29 Green
- 30 Free from
- 31 damage
- 32 Flying prefix
- 33 Playhouse also
- 34 Direct attention
- 35 Drill
- 36 Longed
- 37 Samuel's
- 38 Inspects
- 39 Burden
- 40 Alice's friend
- 41 boy
- 42 Dull
- 43 — Kaneline
- 44 Linden tree
- 45 Inspects
- 46 Equipment

Philippine military launches major anti-rebel operation

MANILA, Philippines (Agencies) — The Philippine military has launched a major air and ground assault on Communist rebels in northern Luzon, using F-5 jets against the guerrillas for the first time, the government-run news agency reported Tuesday.

The Philippines News Agency (PNA) said some 1,500 troops, backed by F-5s, helicopter gunships and World War II-vintage bombers, began the operation early Sunday.

The news agency said the attack took place in the jungles of Kalinga-Apayao province, more than 300 kilometres north of Manila.

The agency quoted military spokesman Col. Honesto Isleta as saying there were no reports on casualties.

Col. Isleta was quoted as saying the attack was launched after the military received intelligence reports that the rebel New People's Army (NPA) planned a conference in the area.

Col. Isleta added that the aircraft were used to soften up guerrilla positions in the province's Pazu Valley and that two companies of elite Scout Rangers had been flown to the area, the news agency said.

PNA said it was the first time the Philippine Air Force had used the U.S.-made F-5s against Communist guerrillas. The air force is

believed to have one squadron of 16 F-5s.

Nineteen guerrillas have been killed in clashes throughout the country over the past three days, the agency said. It gave no word on government casualties.

In Manila, police fatally shot two suspected Communist rebels Tuesday as authorities stepped up their campaign against urban guerrillas in the Philippine capital.

Patrolman Solomon Bataller said the gunfight broke out before dawn after a patrol saw four men in a stolen car. Two of the men escaped. Police said they found a 38-caliber pistol, a grenade and Communist documents in the car.

Eight people were rounded up Sunday in raids on suspected rebel "safe houses" in Manila. Police said they seized weapons and "subversive literature."

Police said those arrested claimed to be supporters of Partido Ng Bayan (Peoples Party), a legally registered leftist group that the military claims is a front for the banned Communist Party

of the Philippines (CPP). Party officials charged the raids were harassment aimed at discrediting the party.

At a news conference, Partido Ng Bayan senate candidate Bernabe Buscayno accused the military of planting evidence during the raids. Buscayno commanded the Communist New People's Army (NPA) before his arrest in 1978. Mrs. Aquino released him last year.

Military investigators Tuesday detained a former aide to deposed President Ferdinand Marcos over the bomb blast which killed four people at the Philippine Military Academy earlier this month, a spokesman said.

Col. Isleta said investigators were questioning navy Lieutenant Vicente Cejoco. He had not yet been formally arrested or charged.

Col. Isleta described Lt. Cejoco as a military aide to Marcos on the presidential yacht. Lt. Cejoco was linked to the March 18 blast by Wilhelm Doromal, an army demolition expert arrested by investigators at the officer school in the mountain resort of Baguio.

Doromal, who is in detention at the school, told the Manila Times newspaper in an interview Tuesday that Lt. Cejoco had asked him for extra explosives training.

London challenges Australian court order on spy book

SYDNEY (R) — Britain Tuesday lodged an appeal against an Australian court order to allow former British spycatcher Peter Wright to publish his memoirs.

The British High Commission said in a statement the appeal would ask the New South Wales court of appeal to ban permanently Wright's book *Spycatcher*. Britain has said publication would harm its national interests.

The appeal would claim that New South Wales high court Judge Philip Powell, in making the order, had failed to recognise Wright's life-long obligation to maintain silence about his work, the statement said.

Wright's book says the late chief of Britain's MI-5 counter-espionage service, Sir Roger Hollis, was a Soviet agent. Hollis played a key role in setting up the Australian security and intelligence organisation after the end of World War II.

The British statement said the appeal would argue that one of the terms accepted by Wright, who now lives in retirement in Australia, was that he would not speak or write without authority about his activities in the MI-5 counter-espionage agency.

"The (British) government will also be arguing that, even if there were no such contract, Mr. Wright owed an equitable obligation of confidence and a fiduciary duty to the same effect," it added.

Judge Powell, in a 275-page judgment at the end of a lengthy hearing on March 13, also ordered the British government to pay all legal costs to Wright. He said Wright could lodge a claim for damages.

Japan, U.S. to cooperate in developing fighter jet

TOKYO (R) — Japan and the United States will cooperate in the development of a fighter plane called the FSX, Defence Minister Yuko Kurihara said Tuesday.

He told reporters that the decision was not made in response to outside pressures. He described the project as a Japanese-led programme with U.S. cooperation.

Mr. Kurihara made the announcement a few days after President Reagan said the United States would impose heavy tariffs on imports from Japan in retaliation against alleged Japanese violation of their computer-chip trade pact.

The FSX has been the focus of heated competition between

Japanese and U.S. Defence contractors. At stake is an estimated \$6.5 billion worth of contracts.

A Defence Ministry spokesman told reporters that the timing of the announcement had nothing to do with American-Japanese trade friction. He said it was an objective decision, made after discussions with U.S. Defence Secretary Casper Weinberger.

With about two weeks to go before the date the United States has said it will impose the tariffs, Japan's ambassador to the United States, Nobuo Matsunaga, told Foreign Minister Tadashi Kuranari that Japan must address individual market-opening issues such as the FSX, Defence Ministry officials said.

Captains involved in Black Sea collision get 15 years

MOSCOW (AP) — A court sentenced the captains of two ships that collided in the Black Sea to 15 years in prison, saying "sloth and slovenliness" led to the tragedy that took at least 166 lives.

Vadim Markov and Viktor Tkachenko were found guilty of criminal neglect in the Aug. 31 collision of the liner *Admiral Nakhimov* and a freighter, in which 282 other people are still listed as missing.

The seamen were also fined 40,000 rubles (about \$60,000) each, an enormous sum by Soviet standards.

Markov and Tkachenko were tried in the Black Sea port of Odessa by a visiting session of the Soviet supreme court's criminal chamber, the Soviet News Agency TASS said in a report on the trial Monday.

In handing down the sentences, the court took into consideration the "special enormity of the crime and the hard consequences of the tragedy," TASS said.

It quoted a prosecutor as saying that "in the dock are irresponsibility, sloth, and sloven-

ness in their extreme manifestations."

According to Soviet accounts, the *Admiral Nakhimov*, commanded by Markov, sank in eight minutes after being rammed at night by the freighter *Plyotr Vashev*, which was commanded by Tkachenko.

In a previous dispatch, TASS said Tkachenko, 44, had been warned from the Black Sea port of Novorossiysk that his course would cross that of the passenger liner.

Tkachenko had promised to yield the right of way but did not keep his word, TASS said.

Markov, 56, left the bridge at a crucial moment and turned the helm over to his mate, Soviet accounts of the accident have said.

The two men were stripped of their commands after the collision. But TASS said the court wondered how they could have been promoted in the first place.

It said the court wrote to the Merchant Marine Ministry, criticising its personnel and technical policy.

Soviets launch space research module

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union launched a research module called *Kvant* which will dock with the Mir manned orbiting space station on April 5, the Soviet News Agency TASS said Tuesday.

TASS said the *Kvant* (quantum) would be used to carry out a wide range of studies in astronomy as well as other scientific research and observations for use in Soviet economic development planning.

The Mir station, crewed by cosmonauts Yuri Romanenko and Alexander Leveikin, has been in orbit around the earth since Feb. 8.

Meanwhile Aviation Week and Space Technology magazine said Monday the Soviet Union is expected to begin full-scale man-

ned flight testing soon of the world's first space fighter plane.

The plane would provide Moscow with a manned space vehicle with a quick reaction capability for space station defence, anti-satellite operations, reconnaissance and emergency repair of orbiting satellites, the authoritative magazine said.

Quoting U.S. Air Force Space Command officers in Colorado Springs, Colorado, the magazine said that the Soviet Union has already made four successful orbital flights of quarter-scale scale versions of the space plane. It has also successfully flown a new booster, designated SL-16, that will provide launch propulsion.

The magazine said the space

plane will go into operation by about 1990.

Aviation Week also said that there is a high probability that the Soviet Union will have its first manned launch of a heavy space shuttle system by the end of 1988 and have it operational by 1990.

Using the heavy shuttle and a new heavy lifter rocket, the magazine said Moscow would be able to build a heavy space station in the mid-1990s that could eventually house 100 cosmonauts.

Launch of Soviet cosmonauts into geostationary orbit at about 35,000 kilometres altitude is possible within 15 years, the magazine quoted unnamed air force officials as saying.

Critics surface at Chinese congress session

BEIJING (R) — Charges of public-sector waste, corruption and neglect of agriculture have surfaced amid the compliments at this year's session of China's National People's Congress, or parliament.

China's top entrepreneur, Rong Yiren, attacked the "profit before everything" mentality,

which he said led to embezzlement, theft and extravagant gifts and banquets.

"The profit before everything mentality is the chief manifestation of bourgeois ideology in the economic sphere," said Mr. Rong, who represents Shanghai. He is also chairman of the China

International Investment and Trust Corporation.

The New China News Agency (NCNA) quoted Mr. Rong and other members of the congress as criticising the draft of Premier Zhao Ziyang's work programme for the year ahead. Public criticism of policy is rare in China's controlled news media.

Italian speaker hopeful of settling political crisis

ROME (R) — Communist mediator Nide Iotti unexpectedly reported to President Francesco Cossiga on Tuesday that it might still be possible to stave off premature general elections despite the severity of Italy's political crisis.

Ms. Iotti, speaker of the Chamber of Deputies (lower house), was asked to mediate by Mr. Cossiga on Friday in what was seen as a last, desperate effort to avert the general elections which most commentators believe are virtually inevitable.

But Ms. Iotti, the first Communist given a so-called "exploratory mandate" in the history of the republic, told reporters after reporting back to Mr. Cossiga: "In my opinion, despite notable difficulties, ways still exist which could be tried to form a government lasting until the end of the legislature (in 1988)."

Asked if elections were inevitable, she said: "As things stand I would say that the great majority of groups in parliament asks that we should not go to premature elections."

Rebels reportedly massing for attack on Sri Lankan troops

COLOMBO (R) — Tamil separatist guerrillas are massing for a big attack on military camps in the Jaffna peninsula in northern Sri Lanka, the government said Tuesday.

"The terrorists are amassing their cadres in Velvetiturai and Point Pedro to launch a large-scale attack on the security forces' camps," an official statement said.

The peninsula is a stronghold for rebels fighting to set up an independent homeland for Sri Lanka's Tamil minority.

The statement said rebels Monday attacked a convoy in the north of the peninsula with rocket-propelled grenades, wounding some soldiers.

Government spokesman Tilak Ratnakara told reporters Monday night that troops and rebels fired mortar bombs at each other's

positions in the town of Jaffna.

He said the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, the biggest guerrilla group, fired 40 bombs from behind the town's hospital at the main army camp, a 300-year-old Dutch fort.

He said some guerrilla bombs fell on the foreground of the hospital but did not know if there were casualties in the wards. A Tamil-language newspaper said army fire killed nine civilians.

Ratnakara accused the rebels of trying to disrupt India's efforts to mediate a peaceful solution to the conflict which has killed more than 5,000 people in the past four years.

Press reports from India said two Indian deputy ministers held talks with Tamil leaders in the south Indian city of Madras at the weekend.

Pope begins L. American tour

ROME (AP) — Pope John Paul II embarked Tuesday on one of the most sensitive trips of his papacy, a two-week visit to South America that will include meetings with right-wing Chilean President Augusto Pinochet and his church opponents.

The special papal Boeing 747 took off from Rome's Ciampino Military Airport at 9:55 a.m.

The Pontiff's 33rd foreign pilgrimage since becoming head of the Roman Catholic Church in 1978 consists of an overnight stop in Uruguay, six days in Chile and six days in Argentina.

The Pope's first stop in Montevideo, Uruguay, is to commemorate the beginning of Vatican-sponsored negotiations in 1978 that led to a peaceful solution of the Beagle Channel dispute.

LOS ANGELES (R) — Platoon, a film of the Vietnam war that no Hollywood studio would make, sentimental favourite Paul Newman and a deaf actress named Marlee Matlin, were the big Hollywood Oscar winners.

Platoon an infantryman's view of the Vietnam war won four awards, the largest number for a film, including one for Best Picture and one for Oliver Stone, the Vietnam infantryman who peddled his script for 10 years, for Best Director.

"I think you are finally saying you understand what happened over there. And I think you are saying it should never happen again," a deeply moved Stone said in accepting his Oscar.

The star-packed audience of 5,000 gave Stone, who was twice wounded in Vietnam, a rousing acknowledgement.

Unable to sell the script in Hollywood, Stone persuaded the British company Hemdale to produce the film on a low budget of \$6 million.

Newman, now 62 and nominated for best actor six times in the past, was not in the audience to receive his golden statuette for Best Actor. "I have been there every time before and lost. Maybe if I stay away I'll win," he had said.

He finally won after 40 years of film-making, recreating a middle-aged Fast Eddie Felson, a pool-shark hustler he first played 26 years ago in the Hustler.

He was nominated then for Best Actor and lost.

An emotional favourite was 21-year-old Matlin, who thanked the audience, to eventually include television viewers in 86 countries, in sign language for giving her an Oscar for playing a deaf student who falls in love in *Children of a Lesser God*, her first film.

"The Oscar is not only for white, Anglo-Saxon hearing people," she said through an interpreter. "It's for everyone."

Following Platoon was Woody

Platoon wins 4 Oscars

Allen's Hannah and Her Sisters and Britain's *A Room With A View*, with three Oscars each.

A popular choice was British actor Michael Caine, who had been nominated on three previous occasions for Best Actor and won Monday night Best Supporting Actor for his role of a philandering husband in *Hannah and Her Sisters*.

Caine, 54, who has kept his cockney accent and is one of the few actors to wear spectacles on screen, was in the Bahamas filming *Jaws IV*.

Dianne Wiest, a regular member of Allen's stable of actors, was named Best Supporting Actress for her role of one of the sisters, Holly, a depressed actress who fails all her auditions.

Gee, this is not like I imagined, it would be in the bath, said Wiest, her hair cut short and dyed red for her next film *Alvin*.

Allen, who has been nominated 11 times for an Oscar and won for directing and writing the screenplay for *Annie Hall*, was playing his clarinet in *Michael's Pub*, in New York, when he won his third Oscar, for his *Hannah and Her Sisters*.

Allen, who stays away from Hollywood, has said Oscars are meaningless and refused to allow his distributors even to promote the film for Oscar awards, which are handed out by the 4,355 film-industry members who make up the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

Shirley MacLaine, who believes in reincarnation, accepted the award for Allen. "I'll accept for him twice — once for his body, which is playing clarinet, and once for his spirit, which is here," she said.

A *Room With A View*, an elegantly-filmed romantic story of an Edwardian girl who chooses love over convenience, had tied with Platoon with eight nominations but had to be content with three of the lesser awards.

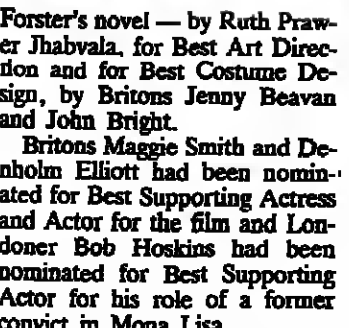
The film won for Best Screenplay Adaptation — from E.M.



Paul Newman



Michael Caine



Dianne Wiest

Forster's novel — by Ruth Prawer Jhabvala, for Best Art Direction and for Best Costume Design, by Britons Jenny Beavan and John Bright.

Britons Maggie Smith and Denholm Elliott had been nominated for Best Supporting Actress and Actor for the film and Londoner Bob Hoskins had been nominated for Best Supporting Actor for his role of a former convict in *Mona Lisa*.

The stubby Hoskins, attending his first Oscar night, declared: "I'm here for the party."

Hollywood tried to make amends to Stephen Spielberg, whose film the *Colour Purple* ran through 11 nominations last year without picking up a single Oscar.

Spielberg, 37, whose films include such box office blockbusters as *Jaws*, *E.T.* and *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, was given a stand-



Oliver Stone



Dianne Wiest

ing ovation when he received the Irving G. Thalberg Memorial Award for his work as producer.

Spielberg, who has never considered himself a member of the Hollywood establishment, said: "Most of my life has been spent in the dark watching movies. Movies have been the literature of my life. I want to thank the audience out there in the dark."

There was also standing ovation for 82-year-old Ralph Belamy, who made a career out of being turned down by leading ladies in the second reel and recently appeared in the film *Trading Places*.

Belamy, after a 56-year film career covering more than 100 films, said he still had an ambition — "I would like to say I have acted with everybody," he declared.

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Van Gogh shatters record in auction

LONDON (R) — Vincent Van Gogh's masterpiece *The Sunflowers* has fetched a record hammer-price for a painting of £22.5 million (\$36.2 million) at a London auction that stunned the art world. In just five minutes, as a breathless crowd of 1,500 jammed Christies' auction rooms, two anonymous telephone bidders rocketed past the previous record, nearly trebling it in £500,000 (\$806,500) leaps. The unsigned painting of 15 blazing sunflowers in a yellow vase — one of the most widely-recognised images in the history of art — cost its foreign buyer £24.75 million (\$39.92 million), including a 10 per cent commission to the auction house. "We are absolutely cock-a-hoop. It is fantastic. We just could not be more ecstatic," a Christies spokesman said. Christies would not name the new owner, but there was some speculation that the buyer was Japanese, given the strong value of the yen on foreign exchange markets. The strong presence of Japanese buyers at the auction was recognised by a pre-sale announcement in Japanese and one excited Japanese spectator leapt up during the sale to snap a flash photograph of the painting. Van Gogh was influenced by Japanese art and is widely admired in Japan, where collectors have been busily acquiring impressionists since the 1970s.

Bobbies get back on bikes

LONDON (AP) — London's bobbies are getting back on bicycles after 22 years, Scotland Yard has said. Local home beat officers nicknamed the "Wheelines Squad" will use the 200 new bikes, not so much to catch criminals — bank robbers don't tend to use getaway bikes — as to help rebuild the bobbies' friendly image. The bikes themselves will have a traditional feel to them. They will be heavy-duty, black, unmarked and British-made Scotland Yard said. But there has been one definite update. There will be three types of bikes: Men's, unisex and folding models. Wheelies Squad officers also will be issued a bike bell, front and rear lights, tool-and-chain, and a puncture kit. Police in London were last issued bikes in 1965, although some officers have since been allowed to use their own bikes. Some provincial police forces, most recently Surrey's have also put bobbies back on bikes. Many of Britain's policemen still walk their beats and traditionally do not carry guns.

Giant birthday sausage to be paraded

EAST BERLIN (R) — East Berlin butchers will mark their city's 750th anniversary this summer by parading a 21 metre long sausage through the city, the ADN news agency has said. It said salami experts had already carried out two sausage-making rehearsals and decided on a maximum 200 kilogramme monster, to be sliced up and shared out among Berliners this July.

Countess wins libel case

LONDON (AP) — The Countess of Dudley, former Actress Maureen Swanson, has won a libel case against a magazine that she claimed portrayed her as "greedy, grasping and pushy." The 54-year-old countess, who retired after a brief career to marry the Earl of Dudley in 1961, was awarded £5,000 (\$8,000) in damages plus court costs of £20,000 (\$32,000). She sued the monthly *Literary Review* over an article that claimed she gossiped unkindly about Princess Michael of Kent, a member of the royal family, and that Buckingham Palace acted to silence her. The trial by jury before the high court was one of the shortest on record for a libel case, lasting just 4½ hours.

Santa's reindeer expelled from town

LOS ANGELES (R) — A tearful Santa Claus said he's been told to take his reindeer elsewhere. His artificial snow and 52,000 Christmas lights have to go too, he said. White-haired, bearded Robert George, who refers to himself as Santa Claus and wears a red-stocking hat, said that complaints from neighbours prompted the town council in Glendale, a Los Angeles suburb, to tell him to remove the permanent Christmas display outside house within a week. George said he kept the decorations — including the styrofoam reindeer — out all year to please tourists and dying children who visit him. "I'm sorry I'm crying, but I care about those kids who want to visit my home before they leave this world," George told reporters. His lawyer, Edmund Kellogg, said George wanted to meet the council to discuss the issue. "They didn't tell Santa they would be checking out his property," Kellogg said.

15 prisoners escape using clothing

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) — Fifteen inmates used ropes made from their clothing to scale fences and escape from prison, the Malaysian News Agency Bernama reported Tuesday. Guards at Lambir Prison, 1,220 kilometres south east of the capital, fired several warning shots but the prisoners disappeared into the bushes in the escape Monday night, the agency said.

Soviet population has grown one per cent

MOSCOW (R) — The population of the Soviet Union grew by one per cent in 1986 and totalled 281.7 million by Jan. 1 this year, the Soviet News Agency TASS said Tuesday. TASS, quoting the government's Central Statistical Agency, said 186 million people were recorded as urban dwellers and 95.7 million lived in rural areas.

Soviets 'not ready' for Solzhenitsyn

PARIS (R) — Soviet society will have to mature before it can publish the works of Alexander Solzhenitsyn, a visiting Russian writer has said. Bulat Okudzhava, a popular poet, novelist and singer, was asked at a Soviet embassy news conference if he thought the works of Solzhenitsyn might be published soon. "I fear not in the near future. For that we need to mature," he replied. "I think the time has come for compromises on both sides, and for that time is needed." Solzhenitsyn, expelled in 1974, lives in the United States. His books have not been available to Soviet readers since the early 1960s. Sergei Bolkov, a secretary of the official Writers' Union, told the news conference that the organisation had not discussed publishing Solzhenitsyn's works.

Arch of Triumph to be restored

PARIS (AP) — A multimillion dollar project to restore the Arch of Triumph — the huge stone monument erected by Napoleon to glorify his victories — is to be financed partially with American funds, the Culture Ministry has announced. The arch, which is also the site of the tomb of the unknown soldier, was started during the early 1800s and inaugurated in 1836. Like many other Parisian monuments, it has been badly damaged by pollution and vibrations from heavy traffic and subway lines running underneath. Renovation, to take two years, are expected to cost about 30 million francs (about \$5 million), a third of that amount coming from American corporations and foundations. Earlier this month, French Culture Minister Francois Leotard said the American Express Co. was one possible sponsor but added there were others. Using American dollars to restore the arch would be "an illustration of the friendship which reigns between France and the United States," he said. Despite France's longtime dependence on state funding of the arts and preservation of the national monuments, Mr. Leotard has taken steps to increase corporate sponsorship. Recently he established a government commission to oversee a system of joint sponsorship modelled on the American system of matching public and private funds.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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BETTER SAFE THAN SORRY

Neither vulnerable North deals

NORTH
♠ K 6 3
♥ A 9 5 2
♦ A 8
♣ 8 6 4

WEST
♠ Void
♥ K J 8 7 6 3
♦ Q J 10 6 4 3
♣ K

EAST
♠ J 9 8
♥ Q 10 4
♦ Q J 10 5 3 2
♣ A 7

SOUTH
♠ A Q 10 7 5 4 2
♥ Void
♦ K 7 6 2
♣ A 7

The bidding:
North East South West

Pass Pass 1 ♠ 2 ♣

3 ♣ 4 ♣ 5 ♣ Pass

Pass Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♣

Sometimes the loss of a trick in a suit is inevitable. When you surrender it, however, can be of crucial importance. It certainly was on this hand from a recent rubber bridge game.

North's heart cue-bid showed spade support and a near opening bid without necessarily guaranteeing first-round heart control. After East raised the bidding level, South decided there was not enough room

to determine exactly what could be made, so she chose the practical bid of six spades.